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Black LGBT films get fest
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Bisexual Transgender Film Fest.
see Arts section



BAY AREA REPORTER

Vol. 31 • No. 48 • 29 November 2001

Serving the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender communities since 1971

Jim Lazarus blasted for United Airlines contribution

by Katie Szymanski

LGBT advocates this week angrily condemned city attorney candidate Jim Lazarus for accepting a campaign contribution from United Airlines, a main plaintiff in an ongoing lawsuit against the city's landmark equal benefits ordinance.

According to public records on the Web site of the San Francisco Ethics Commission, Lazarus received \$500 from United Airlines on September 4, 2001. This is the maximum contribution allowed under campaign finance laws.

Days after receiving the donation, the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals issued a 2-1 decision upholding the ordinance, which requires that companies leasing property from the city or selling city goods and services must offer the same benefits to the domestic partners of their employees as they offer to the employees' married spouses. It is the first such law in the country and has been credited with sparking domestic partnership benefits in companies and governments nationwide.

But despite a string of rulings in favor of the San Francisco ordinance, United and its co-plaintiffs are pursuing the appeals process, and the case could eventually end up in the Supreme Court. And some members of the community are questioning how Lazarus will represent the city against his own financial supporters should he win in the runoff election on December 11.

"It's outrageous," said Jeff Sheehy, a co-author of the ordinance and one of the leaders of the "United Against United" boycott of the late 1990s. The boycott was lifted when United was forced by courts to offer bereavement leave and other "non-cost" basic benefits to its gay employees while it continued its legal fight against the city. "He took the maximum contribution from a main plaintiff in the major civil rights case before the city."

Sheehy, a supporter of Lazarus's opponent Dennis Herrera, said that the contribution highlights many conflicting issues within the Lazarus campaign.

"First of all, the decision to accept such funds, ethically, means he's a liar. He doesn't support domestic partnership any more now than he did when he ran for supervisor a few years ago. But furthermore, why would United

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Jim Lazarus

Rock Lerner



Jane Philomeno/Cleland

Holiday spirit hits the Castro

Mark Welsh, a vice president of the Merchants of Upper Market and Castro and manager of Rock Hard and Does Your Father Know?, points to one of the snowflakes adorning the 27 foot Noble fir holiday tree at Castro and 18th streets. The tree was decorated on Thanksgiving by workers from the Delancey Street Foundation. Welsh noted that this year, there are no lights on the tree in an effort to save energy. When he started working on the project several months ago, the state was in the midst of the energy crisis and MUMC elected to conserve electricity. Major donors include Eye Gotcha Optometric, Dr. Gregg Higuchi, The Bar on Castro, Sterling Bank and Trust, Ronald V. Pinto, the Castro Street Fair, and Brand X Antiques.

Bay Area marks 13th World AIDS Day on Sat.

by Matthew S. Bajko

Whether it is as simple as donating pennies to assist people living with HIV or as vocal as protesting patent policies for AIDS drugs, Bay Area residents have numerous opportunities to show they care about World AIDS Day this year.

Started 13 years ago in 1988, World AIDS Day is December 1 and meant to focus attention on the fight against HIV and AIDS. According to UNAIDS, the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, an estimated 36.1 million people across the world are living with HIV. More than 8,000 people worldwide die from AIDS every day.

This year's World AIDS Day campaign

theme, "I Care ... Do You?", is the slogan for the second year of a two-year campaign intended to create a sustained focus on the role of men in the AIDS epidemic. The new campaign aims to involve men, particularly young men, more fully in the effort against AIDS; to bring about a much-needed focus on men in national responses to the epidemic; and to involve leaders both as politicians and in their personal lives in the response to the HIV epidemic.

While the toll of AIDS on gay men no longer garners daily front page headlines, stories still dominate the news about the impact of AIDS in China and African nations. According to UNAIDS figures, 95 percent of all AIDS cases occur in the world's poorest countries. In several southern African countries, at

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Coates drops HIV prevention bombshell

by Matthew S. Bajko

Conceding many prevention programs geared at men who have sex with men are not stopping the spread of HIV in the gay community, the director of a

San Francisco AIDS research center says it may be time to scrap those programs altogether.

Dr. Thomas Coates, director of the University of California at San Francisco's Center for AIDS Prevention Studies, told Gay.com in an interview posted on its Web site Monday, November 26 that "maybe we should just stop" when asked what could be done to stem the spread of AIDS in the gay community.

"Maybe we should just make lots of condoms available, keep informing people where the STD centers are and just accept that every year there will be a certain percentage of people who will get HIV," added Coates, who is also director of the UCSF AIDS Research Institute.

In the interview, Coates goes on to criticize "AIDS Inc." — the many AIDS and HIV prevention and service agencies — for "almost beating on the community to get it to change its behavior. They are not perceived as part of the community."

The frank talk from Coates comes at a time when the funding and focus of HIV/AIDS programs throughout the nation are being scrutinized. Health and Human Services Inspector General Janet Rehnquist is conducting a comprehensive investigation into how federal funding is being spent by these agencies. The review is expected to be

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UCSF's Tom Coates

Steve Geller

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Executive director resigns from Positive Resource Center

by Matthew S. Bajko

After four years as Positive Resource Center's executive director, Ken Bukowski announced this week he will resign his position at the end of the year. Describing his tenure with the organization as a "tremendous honor," Bukowski said he is looking forward to time off before looking for a new job.

"The agency's reputation as tenacious advocates for people living with HIV/AIDS, its incredible staff and its dedicated group of volunteers made it a difficult decision, but it is time for me to take a break and then move on to new challenges," said Bukowski. "I believe PRC is one of the most important organizations in San Francisco, and I look forward to continuing my support of their work as a community advocate and donor."

Positive Resource Center provides comprehensive benefits counseling and employment services to more than 2,500 people living with HIV/AIDS each year. Last year, 564 of its clients secured job placements, of which 154 clients found long-term assignments.

When Bukowski signed on as executive director, he oversaw numerous changes that helped the agency expand its services. Those changes included the creation of the HIV Employment Services Network to better coordinate employment-related services among various organizations, moving into

new offices on mid-Market Street to better serve a growing client base in the Tenderloin and South of Market areas, updating its technological infrastructure and dropping the agency's former name AIDS Benefits Counselor.

"From consolidating AIDS Benefits Counselors and Positive Resource into one agency to working closely with the board of directors to integrate the staff and volunteers, Ken worked tirelessly and met each challenge head on," said Mark Murphy, the center's board president. "Ken's leadership of Positive Resource Center over the past three years was nothing short of excellent. The board of directors wishes Ken only the best of success in the future and knows that Positive Resource Center's mission was adhered to without fail while under his watch."

As the community-based, nonprofit organization searches for a new leader, Murphy has been



Ken Bukowski

named interim executive director. Beginning in January, he will serve in a volunteer capacity until a person is hired for the job. A search committee has been formed with representatives from the board, staff, and client base in order to determine Bukowski's successor.

"PRC has a strong core of professional staff who have been with the organization for many years and this will greatly assist us as we make the transition to a new executive director," said Murphy. ▽

PRC holds job fair for people living with HIV

by Matthew S. Bajko

Finding a job is hard enough when you are healthy. For people living with HIV, the process of looking for work can become even more burdensome.

To help facilitate an easier job search, Positive Resource Center is hosting a training and education fair for HIV-positive people in December. The free open house will introduce HIV-positive people to representatives from Bay Area training programs, schools, and universities, including financial aid counselors.

More than a dozen organizations with a specific interest in reaching out to HIV-positive people will be in attendance. There will also be representatives from several nonprofit agencies providing employment-related services for people with HIV/AIDS.

Those organizations participating in the fair include BAVC's MediaLink and VideoLink Programs, the Considering Work Project of UCSF AIDS Health Project, Department of Rehabilitation, JVS' Career Counseling and Office Technology and Internet Skills Program, Renaissance Entrepreneurship Center, San Francisco Small Business Development Center, San Francisco Vocational Services, and the Small Business Administration.

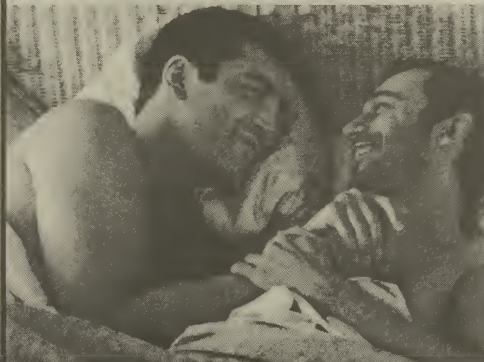
Catholic Charities' HIV/AIDS Pre-Employment Support Program, Goodwill's WebLink and Career Services Programs, and PRC's Next Step Computer Training Program, will also be attending. And City College of San Francisco, Peralta Colleges, and San Francisco State University are all sending representatives.

The fair will also offer training and education presentations on such topics as information technology, food preparation, small business development, health care, marine biology, rehabilitation counseling, clothing and textiles, business computer skills, GED preparation, paralegal studies, and English as a second language.

The fair will be held from 6 to 7 p.m. on Wednesday, December 5 at Positive Resource Center, 973 Market Street, 7th floor. For more information, call 777-0333. ▽

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COMMUNITY NEWS

Milk's spirit marches on

by Katie Szymanski

Politicians, activists, and friends of Harvey Milk remembered the slain supervisor and Mayor George Moscone at the 24th annual Milk March on Tuesday, November 27.

About 50 people, accompanied by a half a dozen police escorts, took the streets from the Castro to Civic Center, where speakers recalled the life and death of the state's first openly gay elected official.

Wayne Friday, political columnist for the *Bay Area Reporter*, said that if Milk were alive today he would be the first to point out that AIDS and homelessness were their own brand of terrorism, and that existing inequality for gays was an example of hatred at home.

"Never forget that this gay Jewish supervisor and gay-friendly mayor were killed to silence their spirits," said Friday.

Former Supervisor Harry Britt, who took Milk's seat on the



B.A.R. political columnist Wayne Friday carried a picture of Harvey Milk and George Moscone at the annual Milk March Tuesday night. Pictured at right is Veronika Cauley, and second from left is Jim Rivaldo.

Board of Supervisors, emphasized that assassin Dan White was not some religious fanatic from a far-off land, but was "as American as Apple pie ... and the bullets that hit Harvey were aimed at us. The world wanted us dead."

But Milk, who many remem-

bered as an ordinary man who simply acted on his beliefs, would not be inhibited by the hatred that still exists today.

"No culture ... no epidemic," said Britt, "can prevent us from fulfilling the destiny that is ours as Harvey's people." ▼

AIDS activists arrested

by Cynthia Laird

AIDS activist Michael Petrelis and ACT UP/San Francisco member David Pasquarelli were arrested on numerous felony and misdemeanor charges Wednesday, November 28 as they exited Superior Court following a hearing on temporary restraining orders for their alleged harassment of workers at the San Francisco Department of Public Health and the *San Francisco Chronicle*.

The two appeared surprised as

they were handcuffed by San Francisco Police and escorted out of the courthouse at 400 McAllister Street, following their civil court appearance. Another hearing in that matter has been set for December 20.

According to San Francisco Police Inspector Lea Militello, bail has been set at \$500,000 for each man.

Petrelis faces one felony count of conspiracy, three counts of felony stalking, four counts of felony terrorist threats, and 11 counts of misdemeanor harassment.

Pasquarelli was arrested on one

count of felony conspiracy, two counts of felony stalking, four counts of felony terrorist threats, three counts of misdemeanor harassment, and two counts of violating a restraining order, also misdemeanor.

According to police, the charges are related to 12 victims, primarily in San Francisco's media and public health professions, including the *Bay Area Reporter*.

As the B.A.R. went to press, Petrelis and Pasquarelli were being processed in the San Francisco County Jail. ▼

Speier hosts Castro town hall meeting Sat.

by Cynthia Laird

State Senator Jackie Speier (D-San Mateo/San Francisco), who now represents part of the Castro as well as the western half of San Francisco thanks to redistricting, will hold a pancake breakfast and town hall meeting this Saturday, December 1, at the Harvey Milk Civil Rights Academy.

The morning gets started with breakfast at 10 a.m. and will afford area residents the opportunity to meet Speier and talk about the upcoming legislative session. Speier has several proposed bills in the works, including those that deal with privacy protection, healthcare, consumer rights, and a new domestic partners property rights bill.

Speier has been in public service for years, and has served on the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors and in the Assembly. In 1978, she was the legal counsel to California Congressman Leo J. Ryan and accompanied him to Jonestown, Guyana as part of a U.S. fact-finding group that was to investigate rumors that people, including many from the Bay Area, were being held hostage by cult leader the Reverend Jim Jones. On November 18, gunmen from the Peoples Temple cult ambushed, shot, and killed Ryan and four others traveling in his group as they were preparing to depart from the Port Kaituma airstrip. Speier was struck by five bullets and left for dead on the runway



State Senator Jackie Speier

for 22 hours. The next day, she was found barely alive when a Guyanese Air Force plane arrived. Two bullets are still lodged in her

body. The day she was shot, 911 cult members committed mass suicide or were murdered in the Peoples Temple compound. Speier has stated that "the Jonestown tragedy is a daily reminder that no one is guaranteed tomorrow ... this has absolutely molded my philosophy and my zest for work and for life."

Speier was elected to the 8th Senate District on November 3, 1998, with 79.2 percent of the vote. In addition to part of San Francisco, the district includes most of San Mateo County.

For more information on Saturday's breakfast or to RSVP, call (415) 557-7857. The event starts at 10 a.m. and the school is located at 4235 19th Street, between Collingwood and Diamond. ▼

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Accessorize

by Jane Warner

1 8th and Hartford, November 23, 3:15 p.m.: Two police officers were flagged down by a Muni bus driver who reported a passenger on board drinking a beer. As the officers boarded, the passenger in question exited the bus from the rear. As officers detained the man on the sidewalk while warning him against drinking on the bus, they noticed something odd. The man was carrying a Santa Claus doll in a box and a brand new pair of tennis shoes with a price tag still attached. Snapped to the collar of his leather jacket was a security sensor and dangling from his shirt was a price tag from Banana Republic. The 32-year-old man was taken into custody and arrested for possession of stolen property.

In the hot seat

3900 block of 17th Street, November 23, 9:00 p.m.: While walking down the street a man saw his friend's stolen motorcycle parked on the sidewalk. While he attempted to push the bike off the curb, another man came up to him and threatened, "Get off my

motorcycle." The man told him the bike belonged to his friend and he was taking it back to him. The suspect argued, but when the man started to dial 911 on his cell phone, he took off running east-bound on 17th Street toward Noe. Responding police were unable to locate the suspect, described as a white male wearing a black leather jacket and blue jeans. The motorcycle, which was discovered to have stolen plates, was released to the man's friend who responded to the scene.

Do the hustle

Fronting Louie's Barber Shop, November 19, 1:55 p.m.: A man who

was exiting a cab was surprised when another man opened up the passenger side door and said, "Hi, I'm Chris, do you want me to go home with you?" The man declined his offer, paid his fare, and went inside Louie's to get his hair cut. About an hour later, when he came out of the shop, the same man approached him again and angrily said, "What took you so long? I've been waiting for you." Alarmed, the man told the suspect to leave him alone and started to walk away. The suitor followed, screaming obscenities and telling

him, "You can't get away, I'll find you and make you regret it." Afraid for his safety, the man went inside a nearby bar and dialed 911. Responding police found the suspect a short time later. The man proclaimed his innocence, stating it was the victim who asked him to go home with him, and when he refused he retaliated by calling 911. The 24-year-old suspect, who has been arrested numerous times in the Castro for similar offenses, was taken to Mission Station and booked for terrorist threats.

Riding high

Douglass at Corwin, November 23, 4:30 p.m.: A woman heard a loud screeching noise, looked out her window, and saw a black pickup truck collide with a sign post. The driver of the truck got out and ran down the dead-end street of Corwin, leaving the truck at the scene. Police soon responded and found the driver on his back in the street, unresponsive with a blank stare on his face. Officers immediately called for an ambulance. When paramedics arrived they asked him if he was on any medication. "Yes," the driver replied, "a little PCP." The man, who was found to have no injuries, was arrested for leaving the scene of an accident, no proof of insurance, and driving under the influence of narcotics. ▼

Hearing on Friday in last-ditch effort to save dog in mauling case

by Ed Walsh

The caretakers of the dogs involved in the fatal mauling of Diane Whipple are scheduled to be back in court on Friday, November 30, in a last-ditch effort to save the surviving dog, Hera, from being destroyed.

In a hearing in San Francisco Superior Court last Friday, November 23, Judge James Warren refused Robert Noel and Marjorie Knoller's request to send Hera to the Dog Psychology Center in Los Angeles for examination and rehabilitation. Warren gave the couple another week to propose a new plan to examine the dog in San Francisco.

Attorneys for Noel and Knoller argued that Hera should be kept alive because she is evidence in the case.

"My client is on trial for her life," Knoller's attorney Nedra Ruiz told Warren. "Surely the city can wait a little bit longer to kill a dog until my client's fate is sub-

mitted to a jury for a fair trial."

Warren also denied a request from Noel's lawyer to lower his bail from \$1 million to \$20,000.

Prosecutor Jim Hammer strongly argued against the bail reduction, citing the couple's "deep ties" to the Aryan Brotherhood prison gang. According to the California Department of Corrections, the couple's adopted son, Paul "Cornfed" Schneider, is a member of the gang. Schneider also claimed ownership of Hera, as well as Bane, the male dog that instigated the attack. Bane was put down shortly after the incident. Knoller, who was with the dogs during the hallway attack, has said that Hera never bit Whipple but may have tugged at her clothing.

In denying the bail reduction, Warren mentioned the Aryan Brotherhood connection and also said that the couple tried to flee from police before their arrest in March. The couple has vigorously denied that they were fleeing from

police, citing their cooperation once they were aware police intended to take them into custody.

Warren also addressed the media reports that assistant prosecutor Kimberly Guilfoyle is under 24-hour police protection as the result of a threat on her life that reportedly surfaced through Department of Corrections intelligence. Warren characterized the report as "rumors."

"Obviously I'm not going to give it any credence at all," Warren said.

Knoller sat resting her head on the defense table throughout the hearing.

Knoller, 46, was with the dogs during the attack on Whipple and faces second-degree murder as her most serious charge. Noel, 60, is being charged with involuntary manslaughter. Both are also facing charges of keeping a mischievous animal that killed a human being. The trial is scheduled to start with jury selection on January 22 in Los Angeles. ▼

Pets pose with 'Santa PAWS' this weekend

by Katie Szymanski

The holidays are approaching, which means lots of parents are dressing up their children for those spirited photographs that hang on family refrigerators and mantles. Don't miss your chance to get printed or ornament-framed images of your "baby" at the annual "Santa PAWS" photo shoots to be held this weekend.

A benefit for Pets Are Wonderful Support, the photo shoots invite pets and their parents to come as they are or arrive pre-adorned in holiday costumes to have their pictures taken with Santa PAWS.

The shoots are scheduled for Saturday, December 1 at Noe Valley Pet Company, 1451 Church Street; and Sunday, December 2 at Ghirardelli Square, West Plaza, 900 North Point. Both events are from noon to 4 p.m.

Groomers will be on hand for last-minute primping, and festive garb will be provided to those who want Fluffy to wear antlers while on Santa's lap. Parents who choose to dress their pets at home will be eligible for Sunday's costume contest at 3:30 p.m.; first place gets a stocking full of prizes. Also on Sunday is a raffle that gives owners a chance to win their pet's weight in chocolate.

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Beastro By the Bay, Santa PAWS charges \$10 for an ornament photo, \$20 for a photo package, and \$25 for an ornament plus photo package. All proceeds benefit PAWS, the area's only nonprofit group that helps low-income people with AIDS keep their animal companions. PAWS services include a pet food bank and delivery, animal transportation and fostering, dog walking, subsidized veterinary care, feeding, litter cleaning, and more. Starting January 1, PAWS will extend its services to people with other life-threatening illnesses.

For more information on the Santa PAWS event, call (415) 241-1460. ▼

COMMUNITY NEWS

Supporters of DP benefits prevail in two East Bay cities

by Matthew S. Bajko

Supporters of domestic partner benefits won two victories in the East Bay Tuesday, November 27. In Oakland, the City Council unanimously voted to adopt an equal benefits ordinance, and in Fremont, the City Council unanimously voted to extend DP benefits to three employee unions.

Modeled after San Francisco's historic law passed in November 1996, Oakland's ordinance requires city contractors who already offer benefits to their employees' spouses to do so for domestic partners.

"This will directly benefit me and allow me to be treated as equal," said Oakland resident Benjamin Scott at the meeting. "It will allow me to extend benefits to my partner."

The ordinance covers leases, franchises, and concessions and includes waivers for special situations, such as when a contractor is a sole-source provider. The law applies to both same-sex and opposite-sex couples.

While the San Francisco policy is still being challenged in court, Berkeley, Los Angeles, San Mateo County and Seattle, Washington have all enacted similar legisla-



Oakland councilman Danny Wan

tion. Other California cities could follow suit once AB25, the state's domestic partners law, goes into effect on January 1, 2002. The bill requires health plans to offer domestic partner coverage to businesses and associations similar to coverage offered to dependents of employees and subscribers.

"The advantages for businesses to enact inclusive policies is it supports recruitment, fosters a positive workforce and is a positive investment," said Patti Restiano, an Oakland resident and a member of the city's Lesbian, Gay, Bisexu-

al, and Transgender Task Force.

Unlike San Francisco's ordinance, which applies to contracts starting at \$5,000, Oakland's ordinance applies to all new and renewed city contracts exceeding \$25,000. Also, Oakland's law does not apply to contractors at the Port of Oakland or Oakland International Airport.

Introduced by openly gay Council member Danny Wan, the ordinance will take effect January 1, 2002. Wan said his legislation closes a loophole in the city's non-discrimination policies.

In 1993, Oakland adopted a definition for domestic partners and began to offer full medical benefits to employees' partners in 1997. In 1996, the city began to offer a domestic partner registry for unmarried same-sex and opposite-sex domestic partners. There are 396 registered couples.

After the Fremont council decision, all city employees now have access to DP benefits. The vote Tuesday affects the city's firefighters, management employees, and engineers and technicians. The council offered domestic partner benefits to the police union in October, and the Fremont Association of City Employees, the city's largest union, received the benefits in January. ▼

Court's revised adoption opinion brings relief, further concern

by Katie Szymanski

Last week, the 4th District Court of Appeal in San Diego issued a more favorable ruling in the case of *Sharon S. v. Superior Court* to clarify that existing second-parent adoptions would not be affected under its decision to dismiss a pending adoption by a non-biological lesbian mother.

The case evolved when the couple, Sharon Silverstein and Annette Friskopp, who had jointly raised a child born to Silverstein

in 1999, broke up before a second-parent adoption was finalized. Silverstein argued that second-parent adoptions are invalid, and two of the judges on the three-judge panel agreed, stating that existing legislative framework did not give the Department of Social Services the power to create such an arrangement. The decision sent waves of panic throughout the LGBT community because it challenged the status of all second-parent adoptions, a tool already used by many to legally protect their families.

But the November 21 modifi-

cation, arriving just in time for Thanksgiving, deleted the sentence that questions all second-parent adoptions and added a sentence stating that the decision does not address the validity of existing contracts.

What this new opinion means, according to the National Center for Lesbian Rights and other advocates, is that the court ruling cannot be used to attack existing second-parent adoptions.

But all is not rosy in the realm of gay parenthood, because the court did not alter its finding that

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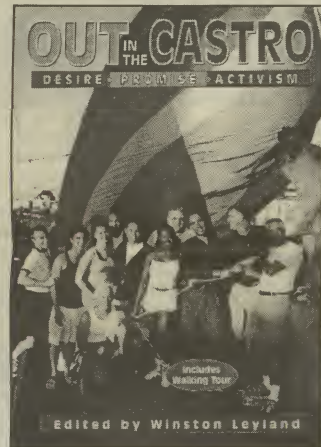
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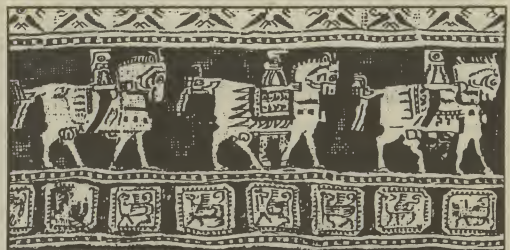
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Acceptable risk

Do men who have sex with men benefit from HIV prevention programs? Do they care? Have we arrived at a stage in the AIDS epidemic at which an acceptable level of new HIV infections each year is tolerable? Should HIV prevention programs be abandoned?

Those were some of the questions raised by Dr. Tom Coates, head of the Center for AIDS Prevention Studies at the University of California, San Francisco. Coates suggested in an interview that perhaps we should just stop prevention programs. "Maybe," Coates said, "we should just make lots of condoms available, keep informing people where the STD centers are and just accept that every year there will be a certain percentage of people who will get HIV."

Is that what the community wants? We don't know. We are certain, however, that there should be debate around the issue; and we are just as certain that recent efforts by gay gadfly Michael Petrelis to hamper HIV prevention programs are not the answer (nor are his efforts in any way related to what Coates is suggesting).

Petrelis, you may know, has enlisted the help of anti-gay conservatives in Congress to investigate prevention programs run by the Stop AIDS Project. By working with these anti-gay Republicans in Congress, Petrelis has persuaded Secretary of Health and Human Services Tommy Thompson to authorize his department to examine federally funded HIV prevention programs run by the Stop AIDS Project to see if they violate federal guidelines, as well as all HHS-funded HIV/AIDS activities. Two of the Stop AIDS workshops in question, "Booty Call" and "Great Sex," could, according to a federal report released last week, "be viewed as encouraging, directly ... sexual activity."

Petrelis and members of ACT UP/San Francisco, who for the last several weeks have engaged in an alleged telephone harassment campaign against the editor of this newspaper and countless others in the media and HIV prevention professions, have it wrong. Their answer is to stifle debate and deny gay and bi men the information they need to determine the choices they will make regarding sex. And having access to HIV prevention information is critical for people to make informed decisions about what risks they are willing to take.

What is reasonable prevention? Coates says that perhaps we should accept a certain amount of HIV infection. As with any risky behavior — think smoking, for exam-

ple — we allow people to assess the risk for themselves; and with that comes the reality that there will be some unpleasant results. Sometimes people take a risk and occasionally it's not going to turn out right.

Perhaps men who have sex with men should take a page from the leather community when negotiating sex: that community has encouraged such practices as safe words, setting clear boundaries, and mutual consent so that people can make informed choices.

In order to make informed decisions, you need information. After 20 years of hearing "wear a condom every time," HIV prevention messages have become bolder and some try to push the envelope in an effort to attract participants. We see nothing wrong with that.

When people — such as Michael Petrelis and David Pasquarelli of ACT UP/SF — try to block information from being shared with others, they are preventing people from being able to make informed decisions for themselves. That's what has been happening in the community recently. Petrelis has hopped into bed with the right wing — whose members demonize gay sex — while ACT UP/San Francisco has attempt-

ed to block information with intimidation, threats, and misinformation. AIDS is not over and HIV does exist, contrary to their dogma.

The AIDS equation is different today than it was 20 years ago. Medication has increased the lives of many people living with AIDS, and it has become more of a chronic disease. Twenty years ago, the cost was high in terms of lives lost, and the risk was high. Today, the cost isn't as high with the new medications, and people are largely managing living with HIV/AIDS.

Now is the time for a community debate on the future of HIV prevention so that we can decide for ourselves as a community what is acceptable, what programs are effective, and how funding should be allocated. Anti-gay conservatives in Washington, D.C. should not be making those decisions for us. They are more concerned with something that offends their sensibilities — gay sex — than in being able to provide effective information to communities affected by HIV/AIDS. By working with those people, Petrelis is doing a great disservice to the gay community of which he claims to be a part. ▼



Editorial



2 steps forward, 3 steps back?

by Jeff Sheehy

Thinking of not voting in the runoff for city attorney on December 11? Think again. One candidate, Dennis Herrera, is endorsed by the Democratic Party and has the united LGBT community behind him. Every elected LGBT official including Board of Supervisors President Tom Ammiano, Assemblywoman Carole Migden, Treasurer Susan Leal, Supervisor Mark Leno, and both the Harvey Milk LGBT Democratic Club and the Alice B. Toklas Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club have lined up behind Herrera.

The other candidate, Jim Lazarus, is the official candidate of the Republican Party and the darling of West of Twin Peaks cultural conservatives. Lazarus also has a lamentable record when it comes to the LGBT community.

For instance, when Lazarus ran for supervisor, he was opposed to the entire concept of domestic partnership. When his boss, the mayor, vetoed domestic partnership, he supported her decision. In addition, his support for continuing to fight for the equal benefits ordinance is extremely doubtful. A look at his campaign finance report shows that United Airlines made the maximum donation to his campaign.

Excuse me! What kind of defense of this

law — since its enactment, over 3,000 companies with over 1,000,000 employees have provided domestic partner benefits — can we expect when the officer of the city charged with defending the law takes a campaign donation from a PLAINTIFF in the lawsuit against the city?

This law, so far, has been upheld in federal courts. The last decision in the federal 9th Circuit Court of Appeals was in favor of the equal benefits ordinance. The next stop may be the Supreme Court, unless Lazarus becomes our new city attorney and throws in the towel — thereby throwing out the law.

Another area of concern is Lazarus's record concerning people with HIV/AIDS. At the height of the AIDS epidemic in the 1980s, Deputy Mayor Lazarus was confronted with the following question: Are city employees with AIDS protected from discrimination by the city ordinance prohibiting discrimination on the basis of disability? Lazarus's answer was a resounding no.

I'll be honest — Lazarus frightens me. I didn't think this type of conservative could be elected in San Francisco nowadays.

But, I also know that Dennis Herrera is an exceptional candidate. We can count on him to defend our relationships in the

courts. We know that he is willing to tackle issues on our behalf, such as his initiative as police commissioner to overhaul and improve how the police interact with the transgender community.

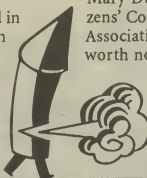
It is a testament to his abilities that both Mary Dunlop, head of the Office of Citizens' Complaints, and the Police Officers' Association, have endorsed him. It is also worth noting that Dennis is a skilled administrator, having overseen 1,100 employees as chief of staff in the U.S. Maritime Administration under President Clinton.

Sometimes, I think that we have it all too easy and we have forgotten to do the simplest thing, like show up at the polls and vote for people who support our basic civil rights. On December 11, perhaps 20 percent of San Franciscans will decide who will be our next city attorney.

It should matter most to us in the LGBT community because we have managed to create a legal framework in San Francisco to support our human rights. Vote. Either absentee, or at City Hall (8 a.m. to 5 p.m. during the week, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on the weekend), or on December 11.

Tell every friend, because this election matters. ▼

Guest Opinion



LETTERS

Debate, not harassment

Dan Wohlfeiler has taken a stand which should be applauded by all who put HIV prevention before narrow ideology and paranoia ["Enough is enough," *Guest Opinion*, November 15]. Debate is permissible and necessary. Harassment is neither. It is time to draw a clear distinction between the two.

Elliot Marseille, Principal Research Associate
Institute for Health Policy Studies
University of California, San Francisco

Supports Herrera

Thanks for your great article on the widespread support for Dennis Herrera in the LGBT community ["LGBT clubs unite behind Dennis Herrera," November 22]. As a Harvey Milk Club member, I'm pleased that our group came out for Dennis.

While the article did a good job of distinguishing the candidates, you failed to mention a couple of reasons that I believe were instrumental in the club's deciding that Lazarus was the least qualified candidate. During the last decade, Lazarus, as a former deputy mayor to Frank Jordan and as the chief operating officer for the zoo, has failed to show any of the qualities that would demonstrate how he would make a competent city attorney. In fact, it is my understanding that he was forced to resign from the zoo in disgrace. There were allegations of fiscal mismanagement and poor care for the animals. His record as manager was lackluster at best. For these and many other reasons, the Harvey Milk LGBT Democratic Club chose to reject Lazarus and endorse Herrera.

Robert Haaland, Vice President
Harvey Milk LGBT Democratic Club

N Touch open for business

I am writing in regards to the "N Touch to vanish?" column by Sweet Lips in the November 15 issue.

On the Thursday morning that the article appeared I received over 15 phone calls in less than an hour asking whether N Touch was closing its doors. A quick phone call to Stewart Hiatt, owner of N Touch, confirmed that N Touch would remain open for business.

However, the writer was right about one thing: "it would be a tremendous loss" if the N Touch were to close. Stewart Hiatt and the N Touch have made numerous contributions to the Asian and Pacific Islander LGBT community for many years. In many respects the N Touch is a model bar for the innovative ways it has partnered with community organizations such as the Asian & Pacific Islander Wellness Center – and its predecessor the Asian AIDS Project – to promote health and wellness; to offer multilingual HIV education and outreach at the club; and to build community and family among the many Asian and Pacific Islander immigrants and refugees who often begin their coming out process with a trip to the N Touch.

The N Touch has always gladly opened its doors for API's health education and outreach workers. For a number of years, I have worked with Stewart and the staff of N Touch to produce community events as a vehicle for communicating important health education messages to the club's audience. N Touch has partnered with API to host such events as "Star Search Karaoke," Halloween and go-go boy contests, and Valentine's Day dances. During these events we demonstrate the OraSure oral HIV test or offer tips on how to negotiate safer sex with your partner. These events have been a critical and important tool for reaching an audience which might not get such important information from traditional sources such as the B.A.R. because of language or other barriers. After the contests, the Rice Girls – a unique and innovative group of peer educators who serve as API's "ambassadors of HIV/AIDS prevention and education" – conduct outreach at the N Touch, distribute condoms and add humor, fun, glamour, and pizzazz to community education and safer sex messages.

The N Touch also served as a proud sponsor of API's Asian and Pacific Islander stage at San Francisco's Pride festivities for two consecutive years, making it one of the very few bars and clubs (along with Club Asia) to sponsor any of the LGBT Pride stages. (Please note I am a board member of SF Pride.) Stewart Hiatt has been a longtime friend and supporter of API. He is a co-chair of the "Families" campaign that has as its goal to raise \$500,000 for the agency. I have seen N Touch support various organizations and causes because they believe in supporting these groups. They are good people.

Nikki "Tita Aida" Calma
Community Events Specialist
Asian & Pacific Islander Wellness Center

No easy fix to fighting terrorism

In his op-ed in last week's B.A.R., ("No justice, no peace," November 21) Vince Quackenbush writes that the U.S. has every right to strike back in retaliation for the attacks on September 11. Similar opinions have been expressed by columnists Wayne Friday and Dale

Carpenter in the B.A.R. in the past weeks.

I wonder, does Britain also have the right to strike back in a similar manner at Northern Ireland for IRA bombings? How many lives have been lost over the years by IRA members promoting their cause? Wouldn't Britain be justified in declaring war, dropping bombs, and/or sending troops to Northern Ireland to hunt down and kill, by any means necessary, every IRA member in that country?

Back here in the U.S., there have been many just causes for war that fortunately never escalated into armed conflict. Martin Luther King Jr. would've had every reason to take up arms against a racist country that enslaved his people for hundreds of years and then condemned them to live in a segregated society in which they were the constant targets of hate groups like the KKK. Yet against all odds he led a nonviolent movement based on the philosophy of Mahatma Gandhi, a man who freed a nation without the use of guns. Gandhi's also would have been a "just war" against an oppressor.

When the war in Afghanistan is all over and bin Laden captured or dead, do you really think we'll be safe from terrorism? There's still many other terrorists out there, not the least of which are the Timothy McVeighs (bona fide U.S. citizens) right here in this country. How do we protect ourselves from them? We can't even stop someone from sending anthrax through the mail.

Terrorism is not something you can stop by dropping bombs or invading countries. It's certainly not something that will be stopped by keeping lists of professors speaking out against the war (as Lynne Cheney is doing) or firing non-citizens who work at airports. It's a far more complex problem, without an easy fix. Otherwise, we would've figured out how to deal with it after the Oklahoma bombing or the horror at Columbine High School.

Tommi Avicelli Mecca
San Francisco

A real issue

This whole article written by Cynthia Laird ["The new 'q-word,'" November 22] diverts the attention away from the seriousness of quarantine, which Dr. Jeffrey Klausner is now denying. True, Dr. Klausner said that he would never recommend the quarantining of HIV-positive men. However, HIV-positive men and HIV-positive men who have natural sex (i.e. without condoms) are two very distinct groups of people. I would like to remind you that Dr. Jeffrey Klausner has broached the topic of quarantining HIV-positive gay men who consensually have sex without condoms with other men. This was clearly stated in the November issue of the *Washington Monthly* when asked about HIV-positive men who refused to control themselves or more specifically, "their infectivity." This is what ACT UP/SF and others are very concerned about.

I may not agree with the home phone zapping technique that was used to make individuals aware of the frustration and anger of what is happening here within San Francisco's gay community, but ACT UP/SF is not "promulgating" or trying to "divert" anyone's attention away from "real issues." Quarantining is a very real issue and a threat to our community and lives. I applaud ACT UP/SF for keeping on top of these issues and making people aware of what is going on around the community, locally and nationally.

I would like to remind people that in the November 25 issue of the *San Francisco Chronicle* the cover story was titled, "Health bill jeopardizes civil rights." These "extraordinary powers" assigned to health officers (i.e. EIS agent Dr. Jeffrey Klausner) are described as being "so broad that it could include AIDS, HIV infection or a severe flu epidemic." The only difference between this article and what ACT UP/SF has reported is that ACT UP/SF was being very conservative about who would be quarantined HIV-positive men who knowingly have sex without condoms. The *Chronicle* article refers to AIDS and HIV-positive men with no distinction.

I can only hope that people will take this situation seriously no matter whom is reporting it or how it is being reported. As a gay man within this community I am very frightened by what I am reading, but more so by the ho-hum response within the gay community and its supposed leaders.

Steven D. Keller
San Francisco

LGBT black film fest is here

On November 30, the black community and our friends will come together to celebrate the images of black lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people in film during the San Francisco Black LGBT Film Festival (presented by BCA's Man2Man Program). Welcome to history: this is the first festival of its kind in the world. The significance is rather ironic if you think about it. Here we are in San Francisco, the "gay mecca of the universe," and yet for years the gay black community here has dwindled – with people of color choosing to move to points east, or simply away from

next page ►

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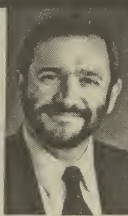
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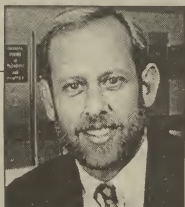
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the city in general. For those of us who stay, we find ourselves marginalized within an increasingly gentrified gay community that markets this gay mecca in a "Disneysque" fashion that all too rarely includes the faces of people of color (let alone women).

The end result is that black LGBT people continue to witness a decline in our community in this city, and also continue to be left out of the celebrations associated with the joy of our sexuality. But I'm not here to assign blame. For every opportunity missed by the gay community at large to incorporate people of color more fully into our "rainbow," there have been an equal number of opportunities missed by us to more fully integrate ourselves into the LGBT community at large.

No longer. This Black LGBT Film Festival is more than a series of movies and shorts; it's more than a recognition, validation, and appreciation of black LGBT lives. It is, as well, an important opportunity to rebuild our community through a joyous celebration of our lives and love. It's a chance to lay a new foundation that will provide stability for further developing our black LGBT heritage for the next generation – and beyond. Most importantly, it is an opportunity to recognize that we are all more than our skin color; more than our sexual orientation; more than our HIV status.

This is a critical event that will be enhanced by your participation – regardless of your sexual orientation, race, color, or creed. Join us in building a healthy black gay community in San Francisco. Join us in celebrating and appreciating who we are – all of what makes us who we are. And thank you for supporting the world's first black LGBT film festival.

Charles Odom, Man2Man Program Coordinator
Black Coalition on AIDS
San Francisco

Pro-war colors

So Dale Carpenter takes off his lavender gloves and shows his true, pro-war colors ("More follies of the anti-war gay left," November 15).

To respond to the September 11 assaults he opposes International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission Director Surina Khan's call for "solidarity and understanding" in favor of fighting fire with fire, presumably "kill or be killed." But does Carpenter have evidence that Osama bin Laden is responsible for what happened on September 11? And if, as President Bush and the mainstream media assume, bin Laden is behind the jet crashes, isn't it evident after decades (and centuries) of intervention, oppression, and betrayal that Muslim people have reason for hostility toward the West and wanting freedom from U.S. domination?

No, according to Carpenter U.S. imperialism isn't the problem. The problem is that we haven't been "touting our generosity." But isn't it a problem if "some people around the world don't grasp" the fact that the Marshall Plan after World War II above all symbolized U.S. domination, not just humanitarianism, in rebuilding Europe and Japan? Isn't it a problem if some people don't understand that the U.S. was mainly concerned with control of Middle East oil and reintroducing capitalism in the Balkans when it "intervened to save countless Muslims from Hussein and Milosevic"?

Carpenter believes it's the U.S.'s right and duty to punish terrorists everywhere. Is it the U.S.'s sole superpower status and overwhelming military might that gives our government the right to be the self-appointed, international arbiter of justice? His argument upholds the U.S.'s 19th century "manifest destiny" to rid the world of evil as Uncle Sam sees fit. Whether Carpenter accepts it or not, this kind of individual and national arrogance is what offends and oppresses billions of people globally and encourages acts of terrorism. Yes, it is important to acknowledge that poverty, deprivation, and oppression in Kabul and in the streets of San Francisco can lead to anger, despair, and violence. Dale, you aren't kidding anyone.

On the issue of flag-waving and patriotism, if Carpenter refuses to see the relationship between nationalism, jingoism and anti-gay bigotry (by fascist thugs or homegrown queer-bashers) he should check out the Reverend Fred Phelps's church in Kansas and Tom Metzger's followers in Idaho and offer us his opinion afterwards.

Yes, the gay community is currently divided over the U.S. war in Afghanistan. I believe that in the New World Order proclaimed by George Bush Sr., the current Bush's "war on terrorism" is really an unholy crusade for oil, profits, and increased global power. Another U.S.-sponsored war in the Middle East will not stop terrorism.

The queer movement should continue its tradition of speaking out against bigotry in all its forms and for using reason over violence to solve problems.

Moises Montoya
Freedom Socialist Party
San Francisco

First Amendment rights

I'm writing in response to the guest opinion "Enough is enough" (*Bay Area Reporter* November 15).

Whilst the notion of AIDS Activists Against Violence and Lies is a noble one, it seems that the escalation of emotion has obscured some of the factual underpinnings of what is going on here.

I don't belong to ACT UP/San Francisco or any other related organization for that matter. I do not speak on their behalf nor have any affiliation with them. Nor do I necessarily condone or automatically condemn their methodology.

There are, however, statements made in this guest opinion that are frighteningly inappropriate and demand a response.

There are laws in place that prohibit threatening communications over electronic devices, such as a telephone. If indeed David Pasquarelli said what is alleged over the telephone, he risks the legal ramifications of threatening to close someone's mouth for good. That is not just inappropriate it is illegal.

On the other hand, if his opinion of a public official is that he's a "Nazi pig," he has a First Amendment right to express as much.

The authors claim they are accountable to the community, conveniently and inappropriately ignoring the fact that for better or worse, ACT UP/San Francisco and Michael Petrelis are also part of the community and have every right to demand verification of statements that are being banded about and the right to be privy to statistics and data that form the basis of policy making. It's called democracy.

Whilst calling people at home in the middle of the night is not going to inspire a fruitful dialogue, it also might be considered harassment for which, again, there are legal remedies available to the victims.

However the simple publishing of listed names and numbers that are publicly available is perfectly legal. Just the same way as sites like stopdoctorlaurea.com and other publications deserve and enjoy the right to publish information that is publicly available, such as listings of electro-conversion clinics or former-homosexual organizations that claim to be able to "cure" homosexuality.

Sending e-mail alerts is a right to be cherished in a democracy. Just as campaigns for Senators Boxer or Feinstein might send out e-mail alerts advocating pro-choice leanings that some people in some communities might find offensive. The recipient of an e-mail alert can make the decision for himself or herself whether or not to give credence to the message based on the credibility of the sender. It's called choice.

Defacing private property is inappropriate and illegal. However, communicating fairly in a public forum is and should be acceptable. It's why we call it a public forum.

Let's separate violence from the equation. Violence is an inherently evil and primal response – inappropriate and simply used as a mechanism by those who do not trust their minds enough to use reason. I condemn it unequivocally.

Assuming Michael Petrelis is providing misleading and incorrect information about disease prevention organizations to the right wing in Washington D.C., resulting in demands for audits and cutbacks in funding, the appropriate response is to counter the misinformation with accurate and truthful information.

If elected officials are making policy and budget decisions based upon misleading and inaccurate information, they need to be brought to task and exposed for their failure to verify the veracity of the information upon which they are formulating such policy. It's called voting.

Similarly, national media outlets that are responding to unscientific and fuzzy predictions, vilification, and fear mongering that results from irresponsible and unsubstantiated communications from city officials should be equally unacceptable to anyone demanding truth and accuracy in the dissemination of information.

Suggesting silencing ACT UP or Michael Petrelis is as dangerous and ridiculously shortsighted an approach as suggesting AIDS or other disease prevention services be silenced or shut down.

Petrelis may have a "strange bedfellow" in Jesse Helms, but so what? Who's to say that the bedfellows that organizations like the Human Rights Campaign have been known to hop into bed with are any better or any more representative of the communities they are claiming to represent?

I firmly and unequivocally believe that people who are fighting AIDS and STDs deserve to be able to work free from intimidation and violence. I also strongly support ACT UP/San Francisco's and Michael Petrelis's right to communicate their grievances, beliefs and ideas with as much fervor.

I do not know Dr. Jeff Klausner and I don't doubt that he is committed to doing his job as best he can with the best of intentions. As a public health official who is communicating publicly, he ought know better than to loosely throw around words like "quarantine" since the likelihood of the press framing it in its intended context is virtually nil.

If silence equals death, then silencing equals murder.

Clinton Fein, Editor & Publisher
annoy.com

POLITICS

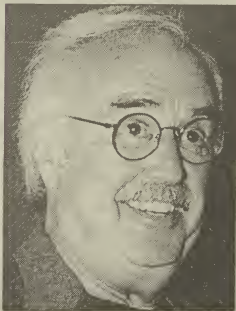
March primary looks at term limits

by Wayne Friday

It was back in 1990 when California voters grew weary of "career" politicians in Sacramento. Some had tired of the Assembly's **Willie Brown**; indeed, Brown was in large part the reason that voters passed term limits on state lawmakers. California voters were annoyed at some who got to Sacramento and decided to never leave — one state Senator, **Ralph Dills** (D) of San Diego, was 88 years old when he was finally termed out in 1998, having served decades in Sacramento. Indeed, had it not been for the term limits law passed in 1990, Dills (and a couple of others) would be Sacramento's answer to Washington's **Strom Thurmond** and Brown would still be the boss of Sacramento.

I have always thought the whole concept of term limits, whether for state legislators, or local politicians like mayors, was a bad idea. Probably even unconstitutional. While the voters in 1990 no doubt did rid the Legislature of some dead wood, hastened the movement of minorities and women into the Legislature, and ultimately gave newcomers a more important hand in shaping public policy, the law also deprived voters of the right to elect whomever they choose, making term limits, some would argue, anti-democratic by their very nature.

A March 2002 ballot measure, spearheaded in part by San Francisco state Senator **John Burton**



State Senator John Burton

(D), will give Californians a chance to fix the mistake they made back in 1990. Proposition 45, if passed, would allow lawmakers to seek two additional terms in the Assembly or one in the Senate if they first secure signatures from 20 percent of the voters in their districts. The idea of the term limits legislation back in 1990 was to create a "citizen Legislature," meaning that some would eventually have to step aside to make room for newcomers, since it is often nearly impossible to defeat incumbents. I don't think it was a good idea, however.

If Proposition 45 passes next March (and early polling indicates it will) Burton, for instance, would be eligible to run for another four-year term. However, the city's two Assembly members, **Carole Migden** and **Kevin Shelley**, would not be able to run again. Both Migden and Shelley are proof that barring them from ad-

ditional terms in their present jobs doesn't mean they are finished in elective politics; Migden is a candidate for a seat on the state Board of Equalization and Shelley is a candidate for secretary of state in the Democratic primary. Under the current term limits plan, it's either up or out for the termed-out lawmakers, and most simply elbow each other in order to run for another, higher office.

Some state voters might have tired of Willie Brown, who spent 31 years in the Assembly — 15 as speaker — but he represented San Francisco well, despite this recent comment about Brown from the *Sacramento Bee*: "In his early days

in the Legislature he [Brown] fought the establishment, but by the time he left, he had lost his creative energy and become little more than a mediator among the special interests, from whom he regularly extracted millions in campaign contri-

butions." That may be, but those now serving under the term limits plan are no slouches at raising big campaign bucks either; wit-ness both Migden and Shelley's success in that arena.

Twelve years after passing the ill-advised term limits plan, Californians will have their first chance to adjust this broken law. We should support Proposition 45 as the first step in getting rid of term limits; if voters tire of an elected official, they know what to do: vote him/her the hell out of office. Even if Proposition 45 passes in March, the state's term limits will still be fairly stringent. We elect these people to represent our interests; when they stop doing so, we should then vote them out. Proposition 45 is the first step in the right direction since constant turnover in the Legislature only assures that we will likely always have amateurs in the job, constantly looking at the future and seeking to find yet another office for which they can run.

Never mind that Proposition 45 was written for lawmakers by lawmakers, it's still a step in the right direction.

As for the statewide candidates, the final step for the primary election is the declaration of candidacy, to be filed by December 7. The lineup for the primary election now looks like this: For governor, Democratic incumbent **Gray Davis** will face one of three GOP challengers — former L.A. Mayor **Richard Riordan**, financier **William E. Simon**, or outgoing Secretary of State **Bill Jones**.

Incumbent Democratic Lieutenant Governor **Cruz Bustamante** will likely face Republican state Senator **Bruce McPherson** (Santa Cruz).

Three Democrats, Assemblyman Kevin Shelley; **Michela Alioto**, the 1998 Democratic nominee; and former Secretary of State **March Fong Eu** are seeking the Democratic nomination for secretary of state. One of them will likely face Republican **Keith Olberg**, a former Assemblyman, in November 2002 for the job Jones is giving up to run for governor.

Incumbent state Attorney

General **Bill Lockyer**, a Democrat, will likely face GOP state Senator **Dick Ackerman** next November.

One of two Democrats, Board of Equalization member **Johan Klehs** or former eBay executive **Steve Westly** will face either Republican **Dean Andal** or state Senator **Tom McClintock** (R-Thousand Oaks) for the job of state controller.

Incumbent state Treasurer **Phil Angelides**, a Democrat, will likely face off against Republican **Phillip Conlon**, a member of the Public Utilities Commission appointed by former governor Pete Wilson.

The three leading Democratic candidates for insurance commissioner are former state Senator **John Garamendi**, former Assemblyman **Tom Umberg**, and Assemblyman **Thomas Calderon** (Montebello); one of them will make it past the March primary to face Republican **West Bannister** in November 2002.

Politics and people

Congresswoman **Nancy Pelosi**, former Ambassador **James Hormel**, **Michael Tilson Thomas**, and **B.A.R.** publisher **Bob Ross** are among the co-chairs of the big fundraiser/cocktail party to be held Tuesday, December 4, 5-7 p.m. at Mecca on Market Street for Supervisor **Mark Leno**, candidate for the 13th Assembly District. Comedian **Will Durst** is one of the featured entertainers for the evening (\$250; Julie Davis at 290-7128 for tickets).

Termed-out Assemblywoman **Carole Migden** was spotted at the Firewood Restaurant in the Castro last week, and overheard trying to explain to a male lunch partner why she passed over her longtime friend and political ally **Mark Leno** in favor of **Harry Britt** in the March Democratic primary ("Yes, Leno is smart, but he's too independent; Harry will do everything I say"). Those who overheard the unconvincing Migden said she didn't appear to be having too much success with her lunch guest, an obvious Leno fan; she was trying hard though, I understand she even picked up the check.

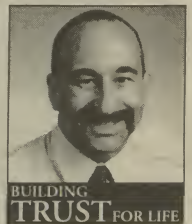
Some of those in our community who are still supporting **Jim Lazarus** over **Dennis Herrera** in the December 11 city attorney runoff might be interested to learn that Lazarus recently accepted the maximum campaign contribution from none other than United Airlines, a named plaintiff in the lawsuit to overturn the equal benefits ordinance that is currently being defended (ironically by the city attorney's office) in the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals; and this guy is running ads promoting himself as a supporter of domestic partnership?

Nationally, former President **George H.W. Bush** has turned Saturday's nonpartisan Houston mayoral runoff election into a highly partisan race by endorsing conservative republican **Orlando Sanchez** over incumbent Mayor **Lee Brown**, a Democrat, and the city's first black mayor; the Houston runoff December 1 is the first mayoral race in a major American city to pit a Hispanic candidate against a black one and now has

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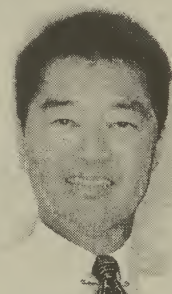
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ONE TABLET TWICE A DAY

Details on use of TRIZIVIR

TRIZIVIR treats HIV infection alone or in combination with other HIV medicines. There is little information about its use in patients with large amounts (>100,000 copies) of virus in their blood. At this time, it's not known whether taking TRIZIVIR will slow the progress of HIV disease or help you live longer.

TRIZIVIR does not cure HIV infection/AIDS or prevent passing HIV to others.

Important safety information

TRIZIVIR contains abacavir, which is also called ZIAGEN. About 1 in 20 patients (5%) who take abacavir (as TRIZIVIR or ZIAGEN) will have a **serious allergic reaction** (hypersensitivity reaction) that **may cause death if the drug is not stopped right away.**

You may be having this reaction if:

(1) **you get a skin rash, or**

(2) **you get 1 or more symptoms from at least 2 of the following groups:**

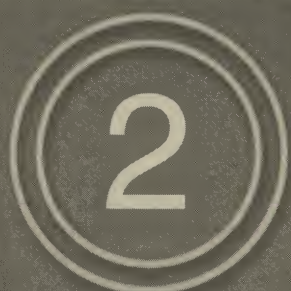
- Fever
- Extreme tiredness, achiness, generally ill feeling
- Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal (stomach area) pain
- Sore throat, shortness of breath, cough

If you think you may be having a reaction, **STOP taking TRIZIVIR and call your doctor right away.**

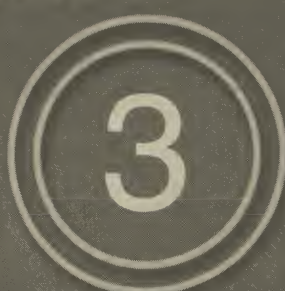
For HIV
(see details below)



1 tablet



2 times a day



3 medicines

3 HIV medicines in 1 tablet

- One tablet, two times a day, with or without food
- TRIZIVIR contains ZIAGEN® (abacavir sulfate 300 mg), EPIVIR® (lamivudine 150 mg), and RETROVIR® (zidovudine 300 mg) in a single tablet

3-in-1 therapy

Talk to your healthcare professional about whether TRIZIVIR may be right for you. For more information, call 1-888-825-5249 and see details below.

If you stop treatment with TRIZIVIR because of this serious reaction, **NEVER take abacavir (as TRIZIVIR or ZIAGEN) again.** If you take any of these medicines again after you have had this serious reaction, **you could die within hours.**

Some patients who have stopped taking abacavir (as TRIZIVIR or ZIAGEN) and who have then started taking abacavir again have had serious or life-threatening allergic (hypersensitivity) reactions. If you must stop treatment with TRIZIVIR for reasons other than symptoms of hypersensitivity, do not begin taking it again without talking to your healthcare provider. If your healthcare provider decides that you may begin taking abacavir (as TRIZIVIR or ZIAGEN) again, you should do so only in a setting with other people to get access to a doctor, if needed.

A written list of these symptoms is on the Warning Card your pharmacist gives you. Carry this Warning Card with you.

Make sure to see your doctor regularly because serious side effects can occur, such as muscle damage and a decrease in red and/or white blood cells, especially in patients with advanced HIV disease or AIDS.

A buildup of lactic acid and severe liver problems, including fatal cases, have been reported with HIV drugs of this type, including the medicines in TRIZIVIR and other antiretrovirals.

The most common side effects of taking the medicines in TRIZIVIR together are nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, loss of appetite, weakness or tiredness, headache, dizziness, pain or tingling of the hands or feet, and muscle and joint pain.

Please see important information for TRIZIVIR on adjacent page.

www.TRIZIVIR.com



GlaxoSmithKline

MEDICATION GUIDE**TRIZIVIR® (TRY-zih-veer) Tablets**

Generic name: abacavir sulfate, lamivudine, and zidovudine

Read the Medication Guide you get each time you fill your prescription for Trizivir. There may be new information since you filled your last prescription.

What is the most important information I should know about Trizivir?

Trizivir contains abacavir, which is also called Ziagen®. About 1 in 20 patients (5%) who take abacavir (as Trizivir or Ziagen) will have a **serious allergic reaction** (hypersensitivity reaction) that **may cause death if the drug is not stopped right away.**

You may be having this reaction if:

- (1) **you get a skin rash, or**
- (2) **you get 1 or more symptoms from at least 2 of the following groups:**
 - **Fever**
 - **Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal (stomach area) pain**
 - **Extreme tiredness, achiness, generally ill feeling**
 - **Sore throat, shortness of breath, cough**

If you think you may be having a reaction, **STOP taking Trizivir and call your doctor right away.**

If you stop treatment with Trizivir because of this serious reaction, **NEVER take abacavir (as Trizivir or Ziagen) again.** If you take any of these medicines again after you have had this serious reaction, **you could die within hours.**

Some patients who have stopped taking abacavir (as Trizivir or Ziagen) and who have then started taking abacavir again have had serious or life-threatening allergic (hypersensitivity) reactions. If you must stop treatment with Trizivir for reasons other than symptoms of hypersensitivity, do not begin taking it again without talking to your health care provider. If your health care provider decides that you may begin taking abacavir (as Trizivir or Ziagen) again, you should do so only in a setting with other people to get access to a doctor if needed.

A written list of these symptoms is on the Warning Card your pharmacist gives you. Carry this Warning Card with you.

Trizivir can have other serious side effects. Be sure to read the section below entitled "What are the possible side effects of Trizivir?"

What is Trizivir?

Trizivir is a medicine used to treat HIV infection. Trizivir includes 3 medicines: Ziagen (abacavir), Epivir® (lamivudine or 3TC®), and Retrovir® (zidovudine, AZT, or ZDV).

All 3 of these medicines are called nucleoside analogue reverse transcriptase inhibitors (NRTIs). When used together, they help lower the amount of HIV in your blood. This helps to keep your immune system as healthy as possible so it can fight infection.

Different combinations of medicines are used to treat HIV infection. You and your doctor should discuss which combination of medicines is best for you. Trizivir does not cure HIV infection or AIDS. Trizivir has not been studied long enough to know if it will help you live longer or have fewer of the medical problems that are associated with HIV infection or AIDS. Therefore, you must see your health care provider regularly.

Who should not take Trizivir?

Do not take Trizivir if you have ever had a serious allergic reaction (a hypersensitivity reaction) to any of the medicines that make up Trizivir, especially Ziagen (abacavir). If you have had such a reaction, return all of your unused Trizivir to your doctor or pharmacist.

Do not take Trizivir if you weigh less than 90 pounds.

How should I take Trizivir?

To help make sure that your anti-HIV therapy is as effective as possible, take your Trizivir exactly as your doctor prescribes it. Do not skip any doses.

The usual dosage is 1 tablet twice a day. You can take Trizivir® (abacavir sulfate, lamivudine, and zidovudine) with food or on an empty stomach.

If you miss a dose of Trizivir, take the missed dose right away. Then, take the next dose at the usual scheduled time. Do not let your Trizivir run out. The amount of virus in your blood may increase if your anti-HIV drugs are stopped, even for a short time. Also, the virus in your body may become harder to treat.

What should I avoid while taking Trizivir?

Do not take Epivir, Retrovir, Combivir®, or Ziagen while taking Trizivir. These medicines are already in Trizivir.

You should avoid taking stavudine (Zerit®) while taking Trizivir. If your doctor prescribes doxorubicin or ribavirin, tell your doctor that you are taking Trizivir.

Practice safe sex while using Trizivir. Do not use or share dirty needles. Trizivir does not reduce the risk of passing HIV to others through sexual contact or blood contamination.

Talk to your doctor if you are pregnant or if you become pregnant while taking Trizivir. Trizivir has not been studied in pregnant women. It is not known whether Trizivir will harm the unborn child.

Mothers with HIV should not breastfeed their babies because HIV is passed to the baby in breast milk. Also, Trizivir can be passed to babies in breast milk and could cause the child to have side effects.

What are the possible side effects of Trizivir?

Life-threatening allergic reaction. Trizivir contains abacavir, which is also called Ziagen. Abacavir has caused some people to have a life-threatening allergic reaction (hypersensitivity reaction) that can cause death. How to recognize a possible reaction and what to do are discussed in "What is the most important information I should know about Trizivir?" at the beginning of this Medication Guide.

Lactic acidosis and severe liver problems. The medicines in Trizivir can cause a serious condition called lactic acidosis and, in some cases, this condition can cause death. Nausea and tiredness that don't get better may be symptoms of lactic acidosis. Women are more likely than men to get this serious side effect.

Blood problems. Retrovir, one of the medicines in Trizivir, can cause serious blood cell problems. These include reduced numbers of white blood cells (neutropenia) and extremely reduced numbers of red blood cells (anemia). These blood cell problems are especially likely to happen in patients with advanced HIV disease or AIDS.

Your doctor should be checking your blood cell counts regularly while you are taking Trizivir. This is especially important if you have advanced HIV or AIDS. This is to make sure that any blood cell problems are found quickly.

Muscle weakness. Retrovir, one of the medicines in Trizivir, can cause muscle weakness. This can be a serious problem.

Other side effects. Trizivir can cause other side effects. The most common side effects of taking the medicines in Trizivir together are nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, loss of appetite, weakness or tiredness, headache, dizziness, pain or tingling of the hands or feet, and muscle and joint pain.

This listing of side effects is not complete. Your doctor or pharmacist can discuss with you a more complete list of side effects with Trizivir.

Ask a health care professional about any concerns about Trizivir. If you want more information, ask your doctor or pharmacist for the labeling for Trizivir that was written for health care professionals.

Do not use Trizivir for a condition for which it was not prescribed. Do not give Trizivir to other persons.

GlaxoWellcome

Glaxo Wellcome Inc.
Research Triangle Park, NC 27709

April 2001

MG-013

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TRZ062R0

August 2001

COMMENTARY

A moment to remember

by Gwendolyn Ann Smith

I wish I could give you a pleasant column you can read with a smile on your face. As it is, I am now two columns behind on telling you, dear readers, how great it is to have made it through the first full year of writing these missives. I really wish I could give you something that nice, but every so often this column takes a darker turn.

This is one of those weeks.

In 1998, I started a Web project called "Remembering Our Dead," aimed at making sure that those who died due to anti-transgender violence and prejudice would not be forgotten. It was an attempt to make sure that these deaths were not empty, and to help keep the community aware that there are people out there that want to take our lives, and who need to be stopped.

The site was partially in response to the death of Rita

Hester, an African American transwoman in Massachusetts. She was stabbed to death in her apartment on November 28, 1998. To date, her death has yet to be solved.

It was a project born out of anger and frustration. I discovered that the transgendered community did not have a sense of its own history. In the Hester case, her death was very similar to other deaths in the Boston area, only a couple of years before. Yet no one I spoke with had any knowledge of those other deaths.

Originally, I envisioned a much bleaker project. One that simply pointed out that our lack of history had helped kill these people. As I worked on it, my feelings softened, and I began to see it as something more than some feeble attempt to lash out passively. I began to see it as a catalyst for change, something that may inspire others to keep the memory of these people alive.

It wasn't long after the site launched that the overall concept grew. The Web site became the launching area for a yearly vigil — one that by the time you read this, will have been held in 20 or so cities in the United States and

Canada.

I'm fiercely proud of that. A project that I originally envisioned as a monument to a lack of memory has become the focal point of memory. Yet I cannot deny the troubles that the project sometimes generates for me. No, I'm not referring to the increase to my already full mailbox, mostly by people looking for Brandon Teena pictures.

In many ways, it becomes increasingly hard to follow these statistics. When I started to collect stories, I only knew of around 30 or so cases. Now I know of over 200. It can be remarkably hard to chronicle all those stories, and feel what is behind them. It can be hell to have an empathic streak sometimes.

More disturbing to me, I've also noticed that when there isn't an anti-transgender murder for a while, I start to expect that one will happen soon. It is as if I am resigned to more deaths occurring in the future. I only wonder — knowing as many other transgendered people as I do — when it will be a friend who turns up dead.

This year, I lost four friends and family members to reasons other than anti-transgender violence. In many ways, I'm still learning to process my grief, and move on from this year. The thought that there may be more to come, and that they may be victims of violence, tears me apart.

As a community, we've been lucky this year. With only nine anti-transgender murders reported this year, we're just below the average. It certainly helps to balance out last year, which was one of the bloodier on record.

Regardless of number, the deaths have not gotten any less violent. The first death of the year was of a man who — while not transgendered himself — was in love with a transgendered person. For this, he was beaten with beer



Christine Smith

bottles, sexually assaulted with a broom handle, strangled with an electrical cord and finally drowned in a bathtub. His body was later set on fire in a trash can behind a church. Others were shot multiple times, or dismembered, or beaten and left to die at the bottom of a canyon.

Of this year's cases, only one — F.C. Martinez Jr. — made much of a stir in the media, and that was only due to the efforts of F.C.'s family and friends.

I had the chance to meet F.C.'s mother last August. She is a soft-spoken woman who also possesses an amazing reserve of strength. I only wish I could possess a spirit like hers.

We spoke of many things that

day, including her love for her child, and her desire to see more resources out there for others like F.C. She also reminded me why I do this project — that desire not to let people such as her child perish without somebody noticing, and without at least some good coming out of such a violent act.

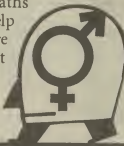
That is what I want to leave you with. People are dying at the rate of one a month, give or take, simply because they are seen as varying from "man" or "woman," and because that variance is seen as somehow threatening.

Don't let them die without allowing them to make a difference in this world. ▼

Due to the possibility of inclement weather, and some difficulties in securing an appropriate venue for the event, San Francisco's Day of Remembrance vigil may be delayed by a week. Details on Day of Remembrance can be found on the Web at <http://www.gender.org/remembrance/day>

Gwen Smith hopes to never end up on her own list. You can find her on the Web at www.gwensmith.com or in Gay.com's "Transgender Gazebo."

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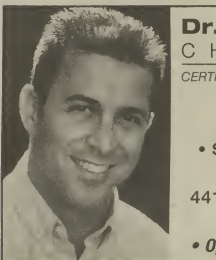
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Push for survivor benefits unites gay Republicans and Dems

by Bob Roehr

Partisan politics were put aside as the Log Cabin Republicans and National Stonewall Democrats sent a joint letter of public comment to the Department of Justice concerning survivor benefits for those killed in the September 11 terrorist attacks.

The recently passed airport security legislation includes a provision for compensation of the survivors that will be overseen by a special master appointed by Attorney General John Ashcroft. He sought public comments regarding rules under which the special master will operate, including who is eligible for those benefits. The November 26 letter addressed those issues.

The same day that the letter went out, Ashcroft named Kenneth R. Feinberg as special master to distribute the \$11 billion fund, with the mandate to expedite matters so as to "not allow bureaucratic red tape to injure further those who have already suffered so much at the hands of terrorists."

Feinberg is a Democratic attorney in private practice with offices in Washington and New York. He served a similar role in distributing funds to U.S. veterans suffering effects of the chemical defoliant Agent Orange used during the Vietnam War. He also served as chief of staff for Senator Ted Kennedy (D-Massachusetts).

Feinberg said that he and several members of his staff would serve without pay. He hopes to begin initial distribution of funds within 10 days, and pledged to "treat claimants with similar needs in a similar fashion."

Feinberg's appointment does not need congressional approval.

Joint letter

In their letter, the two gay political organizations pushed for vesting the special master with authority to determine eligibility "in a fair and equitable manner." They urged a broad interpretation of relationships and eligibility modeled after the executive order New York Republican Governor George Pataki signed on October 11.

They recommended that state law have jurisdiction, protecting existing gains in New York where the majority of survivors live. "However, if relevant state law is substantially different and does not account for consideration of



Log Cabin's Rich Tafel

broad criteria for evaluating relationships in a fair and equitable manner, the special master should be provided with the authority and be required to exercise appropriate discretion to resolve such disputes using the types of relationship" discussed in the letter.

The need for such "discretion" was brought home by an article in the November 25 edition of the *Washington Post* entitled: "Virginia Law Denies Benefits to Domestic Partners of September 11 Attack Victims."

It told the story of Sheila Hein, who died in the attack on the Pentagon, and her partner of 18 years, Peg Neff. The families of both women have long embraced their relationship, and to Neff's surprise, the military has been consistently supportive.

"Secretary of Defense Donald H. Rumsfeld's official letter of condolence came right out and referred to Hein as Neff's partner; and the counselors, chaplains, and compassion officer assigned to help Neff navigate the process of retrieving Hein's ashes and obtaining relief have been uniformly helpful and friendly," noted the *Post*.

But it turned out that Hein "died in the wrong state." In contrast to Pataki's executive order covering New York, Virginia officials have stayed silent on the subject, leaving in place a law that limits victims' benefits to spouses, grandparents, siblings and children." Neff is struggling to make the mortgage payments and stay in their house. Survivors' benefits would make that possible.

Rich Tafel, executive director of LCR, said they began working with Governor Pataki and New York City Mayor Rudy Giuliani soon after the attack to make sure that gay and lesbian survivors

were treated fairly by the government. Pataki's executive order was the most visible assurance that they would be.

Tafel said he was "pleased" when recently hired NSD Executive Director Chad Johnson approached him in mid-November about a joint letter, as relations between the two groups had been icy in the past.

Johnson said there was some initial hesitation from LCR but they soon embraced the idea that "the most powerful signal that could be sent would be a joint letter."

"We are first Americans, then partisans, and I can't imagine that anyone has ever contemplated the party affiliation of any victim or survivor," Johnson said.

Johnson drew upon his experience as a lawyer to write the initial draft of the letter in a straightforward manner. Then he and Tafel sat down to review it. "We had to refine the wording but not the meaning," he said. Most of the changes were substituting words like "gay and lesbian families" for domestic partners, in the belief that they might resonate better with administration officials who will decide the matter.

Tafel said their tone of "being a resource" on this issue was appreciated by their contacts at the Justice Department. His sense is that the department wants to avoid politics and will defer decisions to the special master.

The effort by LCR and NSD mirrors a bipartisan letter sent by 45 members of Congress on November 15. Representative Barney Frank (D-Massachusetts) organized the effort. "I consciously held off asking Democrats so that we would have a good ratio" of Republicans, he said. "We are trying to create a climate where it will be done" rather than create a gay rights victory.

Also this week, a number of civil rights groups called on Ashcroft to act fairly in dealing with surviving family members. In a joint letter to the Justice Department, Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, the Empire State Pride Agenda, the Human Rights Campaign, Gay and Lesbian Advocates and Defenders, the National Center for Lesbian Rights, and the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force called on Ashcroft to act fairly in compensating all surviving family members of September 11 victims, including lesbian and gay survivors and their children. ▼

Our Man Friday

◀ page 9

against a black one and now has drawn (thanks to former President Bush) the attention of both national parties even though it is officially a nonpartisan contest.

Those national Republicans who were rejoicing earlier this month that their candidate, Michael Bloomberg, was the first Republican in history to follow another Republican (Rudolph Giuliani) into the New York City mayor's job, might not be cele-

brating too long. Word from NYC has it that Bloomberg, a lifelong Democrat who switched parties last year and by his own admission did so only because there was no Republican candidate and that the Democratic field was "too crowded," is rumored to be already thinking of switching back to the Democratic fold after he takes office in January. The mayor-elect isn't talking, but he calls himself a "liberal" who is pro-gay, pro-choice, and pro-environment; not exactly your garden variety Republican, even by New York City's standards.

And how about this — just as Al Gore is trying hard to introduce his new full-grown beard to the American public, those newly-liberated Afghans are rushing like hell to shave their beards off (the luck, I suppose, of a guy who gets 537,000 more votes but loses the presidency).

Locally, I'm told that A. Toni Young, who received an impressive 32,000 votes while losing her last time out for a seat on the Board of Education, will try again next November, and well she should. Young is passing up a run

page 23 ▶

Women honored by CUAV



Community United Against Violence held a reception honoring Bay Area women November 15 in San Francisco. The "Women Making Waves" event recognized three Bay Area women who have made positive changes for their communities, according to CUAV Executive Director Terry Person, center. The honorees included Latina lesbian and city Treasurer Susan Leal, left, and Lateefah Simon, executive director of the Center for Young Women's Development, right. Not pictured is Kim Klein, a well-known fundraiser and consultant for nonprofit organizations.

Pot advocate Dennis Peron jailed in Utah

by Liz Highleyman

Celebrated medical marijuana advocate Dennis Peron is back in San Francisco after making bail in connection with his arrest in Utah earlier this month on marijuana possession charges.

On November 14, Peron and two friends were arrested and jailed for pot possession in Cedar City, Utah. If convicted on the felony charge, Peron faces five years in prison.

Peron, along with lawyer John Entwistle and Kasey Condor, a local Utah man, were arrested in the small town of Cedar City on their way to visit Zion National Park. Entwistle is treasurer and secretary for Californians for Compassionate Use, a medical cannabis advocacy group.

A staff member at the Motel 6 where the men were staying called police after a maid reported that she smelled marijuana in the hall. After police arrived and found nothing during an initial perusal, the cops held Peron and the two other men while they called for a drug-sniffing dog.

The dog located marijuana — Peron said it was a few ounces — in the men's luggage. Police arrested Peron and Kasey, and held Entwistle for several more hours while they obtained a search warrant for two cars the men were driving. Another couple of ounces were allegedly found in the cars, at which point Entwistle was also arrested. Both cars were impounded, and two dogs traveling with the men — including Peron's constant companion, a small white papillon named Pinky — were sent to the local pound.

Peron told the *Bay Area Reporter* that the police "overreacted," and that "every cop in the county" seemed to have taken part in the bust.

Prosecutor Scott Burns put the total amount of pot at nearly a



Dennis Peron, shown here at his birthday party last year, was arrested in Utah on marijuana charges.

pound, and the men were charged with intent to distribute. But Peron said this includes a sack of marijuana-laced baked goods.

"They're weighing the brownies," he said.

Police also seized over \$4,000 in cash and drug paraphernalia, which were kept as evidence, authorities said.

Peron, Kasey, and Entwistle were held overnight at the Iron City Utah Correctional Facility. Bail was set at \$5,000 each, and the men were eventually able to reach a friend in Los Angeles who agreed to pledge his home as collateral. The three men were released on Thursday afternoon, November 15.

According to Peron, all three men use marijuana for medical purposes. Peron and Entwistle use the herb to control alcoholism, and Entwistle had letters from two different doctors attesting to this fact. Kasey — an 18-year-old man

just out of high school — uses cannabis to manage depression, which Peron contends is in part brought on by suffering abuse and family rejection due to being a gay man in a conservative small town.

According to Salt Lake Deputy District Attorney Kent Morgan, Utah does not allow medical marijuana use, and cited last May's Supreme Court decision that there is no valid medical use for cannabis and that "medical necessity" is not an excuse for violating federal drug laws.

Peron, a longtime fixture in the medical marijuana community, was among the first to sell medical cannabis in San Francisco. He has had several brushes with the law, including an August 1996 state police raid on the Market Street headquarters of the former Cannabis Buyers Club (most recently known, after several permutations, as the Cannabis Cultivators Club). Peron was also one of the authors of California's medical marijuana initiative, Proposition 215, which voters passed in November of the same year.

Peron now faces an arraignment and a preliminary hearing, which he predicts will happen after the winter holidays, probably in January. Because he does not believe he can get a fair trial in a small town, Peron said he would ask that the trial be moved to Salt Lake City. He plans to fight the charges, and said he would bring in doctors and both local and California medical marijuana patients to testify on his behalf.

"I would never choose to be busted in Utah," said Peron. "It chose me." He continued, "Utah is one of the hardest places" to challenge marijuana laws, but "if we can do it there, we can do it anywhere."

"It's time Utah got in step with California and the seven other states that allow medical marijuana," asserted Peron. "Cancer, AIDS, anorexia, and depression do not stop at the California border." ▼



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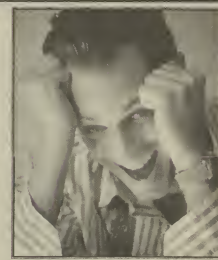
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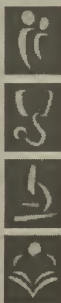
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**Maryland gay rights
law takes effect**

by Bob Roebr

Gay and lesbian Marylanders had something extra to be grateful for on Thanksgiving Day—the state's gay rights law went into effect the previous day at 3:31 p.m. with the stroke of a pen. Judge Eugene M. Lerner signed the agreement by which the right-wing TakeBackMaryland.org withdrew its referendum petition to overturn the law.

The Maryland state Legislature passed the Antidiscrimination Act of 2001 earlier this spring and it was to have gone into effect on October 1. But the TakeBack group submitted what initially appeared to be sufficient signatures on petitions to send the matter to the voters in 2002. That put the law on ice.

Charles J. Butler, an attorney with the prestigious Washington, D.C. law firm of Covington & Burling, represented the gay group Free State Justice and 24 other plaintiffs. He challenged those signatures with a lawsuit filed on July 30, saying that some had been gathered illegally and should be thrown out.

A special master appointed by the court examined the petitions and agreed that a sufficient number were "subject to challenge" and could invalidate the entire process. Butler began taking depositions

from petition circulators with the TakeBack group, in preparation for the anticipated trial. And, under oath, many of the circulators admitted irregularities in procedures, often out of ignorance, that would void certain petitions.

The TakeBack leaders reacted with their usual tactics of name-calling. "The ACLU and Maryland's homosexual lobby are using search and destroy political tactics to disenfranchise citizens in our state," whined pastor Matt Sine.

But once their attorney took a look at the petitions and depositions, the legal tune changed. Brian Fahling, a lawyer with the homophobic American Family Association, assisted the group. He told the *Washington Post*, "It became clear that we were going to lose a good number of signatures. We don't have a chance of prevailing."

Fahling negotiated a withdrawal of the petition, ending further litigation. That agreement is what Judge Lerner signed on November 21. Butler expressed satisfaction and relief with the outcome.

"We know the people of Maryland overwhelmingly support this law," said Blake Humphreys, managing director of the gay group Free State Justice. About half of the state's population already was covered by similar county ordinances.

"This is an enormous victory for Maryland gays and lesbians who now can live free from prejudice,"



Attorney Charles Butler

said Dwight Sullivan, an attorney with the Maryland branch of the American Civil Liberties Union, who also participated in the case.

"The tide is turning against right-wing extremists who have been using the ballot box against us for too long," said Lorri Jean, executive director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force. "Fair minded people are tired of their divisiveness and bigotry."

The leaders of the TakeBack group did not appear in court, but left that to their attorney. They did not respond to media inquiries, and the group's Web site still contains fear-mongering warnings of "the gay agenda." There is no mention of the group having withdrawn the petition.

Maryland law on petitions allows people only one shot at overturning legislation, so the state's gay rights law cannot face another petition threat. ▼

**Survey reports most law schools
welcome queer students**

by Matthew S. Bajko

Most U.S. law schools are actively fostering gay-friendly environments on their campuses and in their classrooms, reports a new survey conducted by the Law School Admission Council.

According to the survey, 100 percent of 168 law schools that participated in the survey report having policies that prohibit discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity. The survey also revealed that 68 percent of the participating law schools have at least one openly gay faculty member; and that 76 percent have active lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgendered student organizations.

The survey also found that more than half of the law schools offer courses specific to LGBT issues and that 38 percent offer domestic partnership benefits to faculty, staff, or students.

"These numbers are encouraging," said Alex M. Johnson, LSAC chair and vice provost for faculty at the University of Virginia School of Law. "For the many thousands of people involved in legal education who have pushed, prodded, encouraged, and demanded equal rights for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgendered persons at our law schools this represents real progress. While much work still needs to be done, it is clear that the legal education community is moving in the right direction."

For Julia Adams, a third year student at Golden Gate University

School of Law in San Francisco, the survey results surprised her. Four years ago when she was looking for a law school, Adams said acceptance for LGBT students and their issues seemed less of a concern.

"I would be looking at schools and nowhere in their literature would it mention they had an LGBT organization, classes or any focus whatsoever on queer issues," said Adams, who is originally from West Virginia. "I would get in contact with students and find out 'Yeah, we are really not out here, you have to forge your own way.' At some schools it was visible in the literature. And from the students I spoke with, it sounded like there was some sort of community and they were comfortable."

Not surprisingly, most schools in the Bay Area offered all five criteria surveyed by the LSAC. Those are Golden Gate; University of California, Berkeley School of Law; University of California, Hastings College of Law; and Stanford University Law School.

Santa Clara University School of Law does not offer benefits, and the University of San Francisco School of Law reported it does not offer courses on LGBT legal issues or domestic partner benefits.

Openly gay Golden Gate professor Michael Zamperini said he is not surprised by the survey results, especially with schools offering courses on LGBT legal issues. From adoption laws to state rules on civil unions and domestic partnerships, he said it is becoming more important for law students to learn about LGBT legal issues.

"It is not just gays and lesbians, but people who want to go into

family law. This is something they will have to deal with," said Zamperini, who advises the campus LGBT group LEGALS.

Golden Gate University's law school has been welcoming of queer students since the 1970s, when the first student group was formed. Zamperini has been on the faculty for 12 years and seven years ago endowed a scholarship for gay and lesbian students with his partner Clay Burchell. Adams is a recipient of that scholarship.

"I did a nationwide search and looked at schools across the country. I wanted to focus on schools that provided public interest law, and they had to be someplace I would be comfortable as a lesbian," she said. "Golden Gate fit both of those bills for me. I heard a lot of good things about how they were extremely LGBT friendly."

By publishing its survey, LSAC hopes other students' searches for a gay-friendly school will be made all the more easy with the information it provides. The survey is part of a campaign by LSAC to encourage more LGBT people to apply to law school. It can be found online at www.LSAC.org/LGBT.

"The online data provides unprecedented access to detailed information about law school policies pertaining to gay students and faculty," said Beth Kransberger, chair of the LSAC subcommittee on LGBT issues and assistant dean for admissions and financial aid at the University of Wisconsin Law School. "It is an invaluable tool for anyone applying to law school who is concerned about issues relating to" LGBT people. ▼

COMMUNITY NEWS

World AIDS Day 2001

by Bob Roeher

This year's World AIDS Day theme is "I care ... Do you?" It marks the second and concluding year of a sustained focus on the role of men in the epidemic.

World AIDS Day is being marked around the world this Saturday, December 1. This is the 13th annual observation of the day, and the 20th year of the AIDS epidemic. The second part of this year's slogan is "Youth and AIDS in the 21st Century," an acknowledgment that young people under the age of 25 represent half of all new HIV infection cases, according to the American Association for World Health.

One principal goal is to engage young men more fully in assuming their share of responsibility for stemming the spread of new infections. The AAWH noted in a resource booklet that 10 million people ages 18-24 are living with HIV/AIDS.

A second goal is to encourage politicians to exercise leadership in the fight against AIDS.

Men's views of women and of sex encourages spread of the epidemic, while the macho stance that "real men don't get sick" translates into a mentality of denial and a disinclination to visit a doctor when problems first arise. Both serve to perpetuate the

plague, health advocates noted.

"Gay men tend to weight the benefits and drawbacks of revealing that they have HIV," writes Ohio State University researcher Julie Serovich in the journal *AIDS Education and Prevention*. Her survey found that the men disclose their status to keep friends and family safe, to seek support, and because they feel that others have the right to know.

But the same set of criteria may not apply when it comes to telling their partners. "The consequences with sexual partners are very different than the consequences with family and friends," said Serovich. "They may worry more about whether or not they'll still have a relationship or if they'll be abandoned if they do disclose."

New research

Another piece of the scientific puzzle of HIV fell into place on November 19 when scientists at the National Institutes of Health announced that once inside a cell, in order to replicate, the virus must attach itself to floating rafts of cholesterol located in the double-walled outer membrane of the cell. Experiments in the laboratory showed that reducing or removing this cholesterol in cells greatly inhibited viral replication.

Now the trick is to see if the same thing happens in humans. One substantial fear is that the cell

uses cholesterol for other basic functions, perhaps exchanging food or waste through the membrane, or maybe chemical signaling to other cells. Simply removing cholesterol also would disrupt these other functions and the cell may die.

The more likely route to therapy will involve developing a drug that can enter the cell and bind to the Gag protein of HIV that the virus uses to attach itself to cholesterol. That would keep the virus bottled up and unable to replicate while the cell continues to function.

Another team of NIH researchers, this one led by Michael Polis and published in *The Lancet*, has found that measuring the decline in viral load just six days after beginning a new therapy is a good predictor of how successful that regimen will be. Standard practice today is to wait four to eight weeks before measuring viral load.

Using data from three previous clinical trials where viral load was monitored daily, the team found that a drop of 50-fold or more at day six usually meant long term success, while a drop of five-fold or less predicted failure. This single measurement predicted the outcome 95 percent of the time. The practical impact of this discovery may be to limit the time a patient spends on drugs that are not working adequately. ▼

AEF penny drive

For those not interested in civil disobedience, they can take part in the annual Every Penny Counts campaign. On Friday, November 30 at Yerba Buena Gardens, the AIDS Emergency Fund will be collecting pennies to help pay the housing costs, utility bills, and uninsured medical costs of people living with AIDS. Since its inception in 1987, Every Penny Counts has raised more than \$2 million for the fund. More than 50 schools and 500 community businesses are helping to meet this year's goal of \$100,000.

The event runs from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The penny presentation takes place at 12:30 p.m. with a host of city and county officials, as well as business leaders expected to be on hand at Yerba Buena Gardens, on Mission between Third and Fourth streets. Under One Roof at 549 Castro Street is also collecting pennies for those who can't make it downtown.

AIDS Grove service

On Saturday, December 1, the National AIDS Memorial Grove will host its annual World AIDS Day Observance and Award Presentation. For the fourth year, the grove's board of directors will present the Grove Award to a leading Bay Area AIDS activist. This year's recipient is Jim Greenshields, the co-manager of Coming Home Hospice's kitchen. Since 1987, Greenshields has worked as a cook for the Castro-based program that serves up to 15 clients at a time in a warm and home-like atmosphere.

"As part of our World AIDS Day theme this year, 'A Family Matter,' we'll be encouraging people to talk about the importance of family and of how AIDS affects people from all walks of life," said Norman Robinson, the grove's executive director.

The ceremony will also include Tibetan bell ringing, and singing by Linda Tillery and the Cultural Heritage Choir. The award presentation and remembrance will begin at 11 a.m. The AIDS Grove

is located in Golden Gate Park at the corner of Bowling Green Drive and Middle Drive East.

Benefit for needle exchange

On Monday, December 3, a more raucous celebration will be held at Pound SF to benefit the San Francisco AIDS Foundation's HIV Prevention Project. HPP provides street-based and clinic-based needle exchange services to injection drug users.

The benefit concert will feature the bands Victim's Family, Rocking Lloyd Trip and the ZipGuns, Tremem, and Candy for Strangers. Tickets for the show cost \$10 and can be purchased at Pound SF at Pier 36, off Third Street at the end of Cargo Way. Doors open at 8 p.m. Also on Monday, Kaiser Permanente's HIV Advisory Board will host a one-hour ceremony acknowledging 20 years of service and experience with the HIV/AIDS epidemic in San Francisco. Michael Allerton, HIV operations policy leader for the Permanente Medical Group, will speak, along with the Reverend Yvette A. Flunder, senior pastor of the City of Refuge.

Flunder and her staff respond to the needs of HIV clients through Ark of Refuge, an HIV-specific nonprofit agency whose purpose is to provide housing, direct services, education, and training for persons affected by HIV/AIDS in the Bay Area.

The ceremony will take place from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. in the main lobby of the Kaiser Permanente Medical Center, 2238 Geary Boulevard.

Kaiser is also hosting two educational workshops on HIV/AIDS and the impact on minority communities, women, youth, seniors, and sexual minorities. The first forum, will be held on Monday, December 10 and the second on Friday, December 14. Both will take place from noon to 2 p.m. in the Diamond Conference Room, Second Floor, 2238 Geary Boulevard. ▼



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Recent Jury Verdicts

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World AIDS Day

◀ page 1

least one in five adults is HIV-positive. In 2000, the HIV prevalence rate among pregnant women in South Africa rose to its highest level ever: 24.5 percent, bringing to 4.7 million the estimated total number of South Africans living with the virus.

East Bay demo

In the meantime, United States drug companies are seeking patents in Africa to stop the sale of cheaper, generic alternatives to their medications. To pressure these companies to drop their patents, ACT UP/East Bay and other community groups will be leading a World AIDS Day march for affordable medications for all nations. More than 300 people are expected to march from the Berkeley offices of Roche Diagnostics to Bayer's offices.

"We are putting the world back in World AIDS Day. We believe the pharmaceutical companies are responsible for the 95 percent of people who need treatment and are not getting it," said John Iversen with ACT UP/East Bay. "Of the 37 million people infected with HIV, only 3 million receive treatment. The major corporations have become our new government. We are just calling attention to the fact there is a difference between a decent rate of return and obscene profit."

Joan Claybrook, the national director of Public Citizen, a public interest group founded by Ralph Nader, will speak at the march, along with Berkeley Vice Mayor Maudelle Shirek and City Council member Kriss Worthington. Other groups sponsoring the march include Global Exchange, Gray Panthers, and the Lesbian and Gay Insurrection.

The march will begin at noon on Friday, November 30 at Roche's offices located at 2929 Seventh Street.

Police harassment all too common for TGs

by Chris Daley,
Coordinator of the
Transgender Law Project

The following is an occasional column compiled by the Transgender Law Project that answers basic legal questions of interest to San Francisco's transgender, intersex, gender-variant, and genderqueer communities.

Q: I sometimes have police officers calling me by the wrong pronoun or harassing me because I am transgender. What rights do I have? What can I do?

A: The good news is that San Francisco is home to several organizations and agencies working to protect people from being harassed and/or abused by police officers. The bad news is that your experiences are all too common. In 2000, the National Coalition of Anti-Violence Programs reported that police and private security officers are the perpetrators in almost 50 percent of the hate violence claims submitted by transgender people in San Francisco ("Anti-Lesbian, Gay, Transgender, and Bisexual Violence 2000" report). This percentage is especially alarming considering that the laws and policies of San Francisco explicitly forbid this kind of conduct.

What rights do I have?

San Francisco police officers are city employees and are therefore prohibited by city ordinance

from discriminating against you based on your gender identity. In addition, SFPD internal regulations and a recently adopted resolution of the San Francisco Police Commission govern how an officer is supposed to address and treat someone who is transgender. While the effect of these laws and regulations makes harassment based on your gender-identity unlawful, they do not necessarily make it rare.

Verbal harassment

A discriminatory officer may attempt to harass or intimidate you by purposefully referring to you by your old name or the wrong gender pronoun. This kind of conduct is most commonly associated with harassment of women in the Tenderloin and Mission neighborhoods. However, it has also happened to transgender men and women and genderqueer folks when we are pulled over for traffic violations, arrested as part of a political protest, or even when we ourselves have called the police for assistance. And because transgender men of color are targets for racial profiling, they are likely to disproportionately experience this kind of harassment.

As stated above, this kind of conduct is prohibited by San Francisco city ordinances and Police Department internal regulations. According to the Office of

Citizen Complaints, an officer is required to address you by the pronoun most appropriate to your gender presentation. If the officer does not know which pronoun to use she or he is required to ask you which pronoun you prefer and to conform her or his conduct accordingly.

Furthermore, SFPD general orders require police officers to address you by either the name on your identification or the name you regularly use if you have not had your identification corrected to reflect your gender identity. In investigative circumstances where the officer needs to determine if you had a prior name or is attempting to clarify the name on your identification, she

or he may respectfully ask gender and name related questions. Once those questions have been answered, however, the officer must refer to you by the name you regularly use.

Physical harassment

Sometimes, an officer will go beyond verbal harassment. The most common form of physical harassment is a so-called genitalia check. If an officer is legally detaining you, she or he has some limited right to do a physical "pat-down." (Generally, this conduct is allowed when the officer reasonably fears for personal or public

safety.) The officer, however, has no right to grab your groin in an attempt to determine what kind of genitalia you have. Any officer who does this is not only violating San Francisco rules and statutes, but also your federal constitutional rights.

Strip search

The next level of physical harassment is often the deliberate use of a strip search to degrade and humiliate the subject. If you are in police custody after an arrest, the police do have a limited right to conduct a strip search. Generally, this can be done only if the officer is searching for a weapon or contraband and you have been arrested on a felony charge. And even then, the search should be done in private by an officer whose gender presentation matches yours. If this would be uncomfortable for you, you should request that the search be done by someone of the other gender or a medical professional.

Confrontation on the street

Once you know your rights, it would be great if you were able to assert them every time you come in contact with a police officer. However, many people are uncomfortable confronting cops. Police can be intimidating and abuse can begin and end before you even have a chance to think. Sometimes, it is only after a confrontation that you realize that what was done to you was unlawful. Because of this, confronting a discriminatory officer may not always be possible.

Furthermore, confronting an officer on the street is not always the best idea. It is not uncommon for low-level harassment or violence to escalate when you challenge an officer's authority. If you are alone with an officer or if you are outnumbered, you should consider the very real possibility that standing up to her or him could lead to physical violence. While this possibility should not keep you from asserting your rights, it should encourage you to consider when, where, and how to assert them.

You're not powerless, however. One thing you can do is take notice of the facts of the harassment. Concentrate on when the abuse starts and when it stops. Try to remember what you or your companion(s) were doing during the incident. And most important, remember everything you can about the officer or officers involved. Even if you are unable to get their name or shield number, try to remember what they looked like so that you can describe them later.

Filing an official complaint

If you are harassed or abused by an officer, it is possible to file a complaint with the San Francisco Office of Citizen Complaint (OCC). The goal behind this process is to create citizen oversight of the Police Department. It also serves another purpose. It allows you to tell someone your story, make the abusive officer answer some questions from the city, and make a record of the complaint. If this type of process will help you come to peace with the harassment or violence, you should strongly consider this route. However, if your goal is ei-

ther serious punishment for the officer or monetary compensation for you, you might be frustrated and disappointed by the outcome. The OCC can be reached at (415) 557-7711.

Making a private record and getting information on legal representation

The Bay Area PoliceWatch project of the Ella Baker Center for Human Rights operates a police abuse documentation and lawyer referral service. By calling them at (415) 951-4844, ext. 24, you can create a record of the abuse you suffered and get basic information about your rights and remedies. The confidential information you provide to PoliceWatch will be useful in compiling statistics and making future policy recommendations to the city and police commission. Your testimony may also be helpful for someone else's civil or criminal defense case involving the same officer(s). When warranted, PoliceWatch will refer your case to experienced police misconduct attorneys. However, because of the difficulties of filing a civil suit in police harassment and abuse cases, PoliceWatch is unable to refer all complaints to attorneys.

Creating a community response

TransAction is a grassroots community group formed to expose and end police violence against the transgender community. They can provide support to survivors of police violence and advice on how to organize the community to fight back. TransAction, a program jointly sponsored by the Ella Baker Center and Community United Against Violence, can be reached at (415) 777-5500, ext. 315. You can also use this same phone number to file an incident report with, and get support from, the hate violence project of CUAV. Your report will help CUAV track incidents of bias-motivated violence and will contribute to statistics like the one cited at the beginning of this column.

You may be getting the idea that there is no one step you can take to protect yourself from police harassment. I'd agree with you. However, the above agencies and organizations work toward that goal on a daily basis. By working with one or more of them, you will be taking an important step toward promoting and enhancing your right to live free of police harassment and abuse.

The information provided in this column is not intended as a substitute for legal advice. If you have a legal question about your specific circumstances, please contact an attorney or the appropriate government agency. ▼

The Transgender Law Project is co-sponsored by the National Center for Lesbian Rights and the Pride Law Fund. If you have questions about gender identity discrimination or are a transgender, intersex, gender-variant, and/or genderqueer person with other legal questions, please feel free to contact the project's coordinator and Tom Steel Fellow, Chris Daley, at (415) 392-6257, ext. 308 or e-mail daley@nclrights.org.



Legal Translations

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SAFETY INFORMATION

- COMBIVIR does not cure HIV infection/AIDS or prevent passing HIV to others
- COMBIVIR should be used with other HIV medicines
- Make sure to see your doctor regularly because serious side effects can occur, such as muscle damage and a decrease in red and white blood cells
- A buildup of lactic acid in the blood and an enlarged liver, including fatal cases, have been seen
- Low risk of fat wasting, tingling or burning in the hands or feet, or problems with the pancreas
- The most frequent side effects are headache, upset stomach, malaise or fatigue, and runny nose

For information:

CALL 1-877-TREAT HIV or visit our Web site at www.TreatHIV.com



Please see Brief Summary for COMBIVIR on the following page.



GlaxoSmithKline

BRIEF SUMMARY

COMBIVIR® Tablets (lamivudine/zidovudine tablets)

The following is a brief summary only; see full prescribing information for complete product information.

WARNING: ZIDOVUDINE, ONE OF THE TWO ACTIVE INGREDIENTS IN COMBIVIR, HAS BEEN ASSOCIATED WITH HEMATOLOGIC TOXICITY INCLUDING NEUTROPENIA AND SEVERE ANEMIA, PARTICULARLY IN PATIENTS WITH ADVANCED HIV DISEASE (SEE WARNINGS). PROLONGED USE OF ZIDOVUDINE HAS BEEN ASSOCIATED WITH SYMPTOMATIC MYOPATHY. LACTIC ACIDOSIS AND SEVERE HEPATOMEGALY WITH STEATOSIS, INCLUDING FATAL CASES, HAVE BEEN REPORTED WITH THE USE OF NUCLEOSIDE ANALOGUES ALONE OR IN COMBINATION, INCLUDING LAMIVUDINE, ZIDOVUDINE, AND OTHER ANTIRETROVIRALS (SEE WARNINGS).

INDICATIONS AND USAGE: COMBIVIR in combination with other antiretroviral agents is indicated for the treatment of HIV infection. **Description of Clinical Studies:** COMBIVIR: There have been no clinical trials conducted with COMBIVIR. See CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY for information about bioequivalence. One COMBIVIR Tablet given twice a day is an alternative regimen to EPVIR Tablets 150 mg twice a day plus RETROVIR 600 mg per day in divided doses.

Lamivudine Plus Zidovudine: The NUCB3007 (CAESAR) study was conducted using EPVIR 150-mg Tablets (150 mg b.i.d.) and RETROVIR 100-mg Capsules (2 x 100 mg t.i.d.). CAESAR was a multicenter, double-blind, placebo-controlled study comparing continued current therapy (zidovudine alone (62% of patients) or zidovudine with didanosine or zalcitabine (38% of patients)) to the addition of EPVIR or EPVIR plus an investigational non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitor, randomized 1:2:1. A total of 1816 HIV-infected adults with 25 to 250 (median 122) CD4 cells/mm³ at baseline were enrolled; median age was 36 years, 87% were male, 84% were nucleoside-experienced, and 16% were therapy-naïve. The median duration on study was 12 months. Results are summarized in Table 1.

Table 1: Number of Patients (%) With At Least 1 HIV Disease-Progression Event or Death

Endpoint	Current Therapy (n = 460)	EPVIR plus Current Therapy (n = 896)	EPVIR plus a NNRTI* plus Current Therapy (n = 460)
HIV progression or death	90 (19.6%)	86 (9.6%)	41 (8.9%)
Death	27 (5.9%)	23 (2.6%)	14 (3.0%)

*An investigational non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitor not approved in the United States.

CONTRAINDICATIONS: COMBIVIR Tablets are contraindicated in patients with previously demonstrated clinically significant hypersensitivity to any of the components of the product.

WARNINGS: COMBIVIR is a fixed-dose combination of lamivudine and zidovudine. Ordinarily, COMBIVIR should not be administered concomitantly with either lamivudine or zidovudine.

The complete prescribing information for all agents being considered for use with COMBIVIR should be consulted before combination therapy with COMBIVIR is initiated.

Bone Marrow Suppression: COMBIVIR should be used with caution in patients who have bone marrow compromise evidenced by granulocyte count <1000 cells/mm³ or hemoglobin <9.5 g/dL (see ADVERSE REACTIONS).

Frequent blood counts are strongly recommended in patients with advanced HIV disease who are treated with COMBIVIR. For HIV-infected individuals and patients with asymptomatic or early HIV disease, periodic blood counts are recommended.

Lactic Acidosis/Severe Hepatomegaly with Steatosis: Lactic acidosis and severe hepatomegaly with steatosis, including fatal cases, have been reported with the use of nucleoside analogues alone or in combination, including lamivudine, zidovudine, and other antiretrovirals. A majority of these cases have been in women. Obesity and prolonged nucleoside exposure may be risk factors. Particular caution should be exercised when administering COMBIVIR to any patient with known risk factors for liver disease; however, cases have also been reported in patients with no known risk factors. Treatment with COMBIVIR should be suspended in any patient who develops clinical or laboratory findings suggestive of lactic acidosis or pronounced hepatotoxicity (which may include hepatomegaly and steatosis even in the absence of marked transaminase elevations).

Myopathy: Myopathy and myositis, with pathological changes similar to that produced by HIV disease, have been associated with prolonged use of zidovudine, and therefore may occur with therapy with COMBIVIR.

PRECAUTIONS:

Patients With HIV and Hepatitis B Virus Coinfection: In clinical trials and postmarketing experience, some patients with HIV infection who have chronic liver disease due to hepatitis B virus infection experienced clinical or laboratory evidence of recurrent hepatitis upon discontinuation of lamivudine. Consequences may be more severe in patients with decompensated liver disease.

Patients With Impaired Renal Function: Reduction of the dosages of lamivudine and zidovudine is recommended for patients with impaired renal function. Patients with creatinine clearance <50 mL/min should not receive COMBIVIR.

Information for Patients: COMBIVIR is not a cure for HIV infection and patients may continue to experience illnesses associated with HIV infection, including opportunistic infections. Patients should be advised that the use of COMBIVIR has not been shown to reduce the risk of transmission of HIV to others through sexual contact or blood contamination. Patients should be informed that the major toxicities of COMBIVIR are neutropenia and/or anemia. They should be told of the extreme importance of having their blood counts followed closely while on therapy, especially for patients with advanced HIV disease. Patients should be advised of the importance of taking COMBIVIR as it is prescribed.

Drug Interactions: Coadministration of ganciclovir, interferon- α , and other bone marrow suppressive or cytotoxic agents may increase the hematologic toxicity of zidovudine (see CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY section of full prescribing information).

Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, and Impairment of Fertility: *Carcinogenicity:*

Lamivudine: Lamivudine long-term carcinogenicity studies in mice and rats showed no evidence of carcinogenic potential at exposures up to 10 times (mice) and 58 times (rats) those observed in humans at the recommended therapeutic dose.

Zidovudine: Zidovudine was administered orally at 3 dosage levels to separate groups of mice and rats (50 females and 60 males in each group). Initial single daily doses were 30, 60, and 120 mg/kg per day in mice and 80, 220, and 600 mg/kg per day in rats. The doses in mice were reduced to 20, 30, and 40 mg/kg per day after day 90 because of treatment-related anemia, whereas in rats only the high dose was reduced to 450 mg/kg per day on day 91 and then to 300 mg/kg per day on day 279.

In mice, 7 late-appearing (after 19 months) vaginal neoplasms (5 nonmetastasizing squamous cell carcinomas, 1 squamous cell papilloma, and 1 squamous polyp) occurred in animals given the highest dose. One late-appearing squamous cell papilloma occurred in the vagina of a middle-dose animal. No vaginal tumors were found at the lowest dose.

In rats, 2 late-appearing (after 20 months), nonmetastasizing vaginal squamous cell carcinomas occurred in animals given the highest dose. No vaginal tumors occurred at the low or middle dose in rats. No other drug-related tumors were observed in either sex of either species.

At doses that produced tumors in mice and rats, the estimated drug exposure (as measured by AUC) was approximately 3 times (mouse) and 24 times (rat) the estimated human exposure at the recommended therapeutic dose of 100 mg every 4 hours.

Two transplacental carcinogenicity studies were conducted in mice. One study administered zidovudine at doses of 20 mg/kg per day or 40 mg/kg per day from gestation day 10 through parturition and lactation with dosing continuing in offspring for 24 months postnatally. The doses of zidovudine employed in this study produced zidovudine exposures approximately 3 times the estimated human exposure at recommended doses. After 24 months, at the highest dose, an increase in incidence of vaginal tumors was noted with no increase in tumors in the liver or lung or any other organ in either gender. These findings are consistent with results of the standard oral carcinogenicity study in mice, as described earlier. A second study administered zidovudine at maximum tolerated doses of 12.5 mg/day or 25 mg/day (~1000 mg/kg nonpregnant body weight or ~450 mg/kg of term body weight) to pregnant mice from days 12 through 18 of gestation. There was an increase in the number of tumors in the lung, liver, and female reproductive tracts in the offspring of mice receiving the higher dose level of zidovudine.

It is not known how predictive the results of rodent carcinogenicity studies may be for humans.

Mutagenicity: **Lamivudine:** Lamivudine was negative in a microbial mutagenicity screen, in an in vitro cell transformation assay, in a rat micronucleus test, in a rat bone marrow cytogenetic assay, and in an assay for unscheduled DNA synthesis in rat liver. It was mutagenic in a L5178Y/TK⁺ mouse lymphoma assay and clastogenic in a cytogenetic assay using cultured human lymphocytes.

Zidovudine: Zidovudine was mutagenic in a L5178Y/TK⁺ mouse lymphoma assay, positive in an in vitro cell transformation assay, clastogenic in a cytogenetic assay using cultured human lymphocytes, and positive in mouse and rat micronucleus tests after repeated doses. It was negative in a cytogenetic study in rats given a single dose.

Impairment of Fertility: **Lamivudine:** In a study of reproductive performance, lamivudine, administered to male and female rats at doses up to 130 times the usual adult dose based on body surface area considerations, revealed no evidence of impaired fertility (judged by conception rates) and no effect on the survival, growth, and development to weaning of the offspring.

Zidovudine: Zidovudine, administered to male and female rats at doses up to 7 times the usual adult dose based on body surface area considerations, had no effect on fertility judged by conception rates.

Pregnancy: Pregnancy Category C.

COMBIVIR: There are no adequate and well-controlled studies of COMBIVIR in pregnant women. Reproduction studies with lamivudine and zidovudine have been performed in animals (see Lamivudine and Zidovudine sections below). COMBIVIR should be used during pregnancy only if the potential benefits outweigh the risks.

Lamivudine: Reproduction studies with orally administered lamivudine have been performed in rats and rabbits at 130 and 60

COMBIVIR® Tablets (lamivudine/zidovudine tablets)

times, respectively, the usual adult dose (based on relative body surface area) and have revealed no evidence of teratogenicity. Some evidence of early embryolethality was seen in the rabbit at doses similar to those produced by the usual adult dose and higher, but there was no indication of this effect in the rat at orally administered doses up to 130 times the usual adult dose. Studies in pregnant rats and rabbits showed that lamivudine is transferred to the fetus through the placenta.

Zidovudine: Reproduction studies with orally administered zidovudine in the rat and in the rabbit at doses up to 500 mg/kg per day revealed no evidence of teratogenicity with zidovudine. Zidovudine treatment resulted in embryo/fetal toxicity as evidenced by an increase in the incidence of fetal resorptions in rats given 150 or 450 mg/kg per day and rabbits given 500 mg/kg per day. The doses used in the teratology studies resulted in peak zidovudine plasma concentrations (after one-half of the daily dose) in rats 66 to 226 times, and in rabbits 12 to 87 times, mean steady-state peak human plasma concentrations (after one-sixth of the daily dose) achieved with the recommended daily dose (100 mg every 4 hours). In an additional teratology study in rats, a dose of 3000 mg/kg per day (very near the oral median lethal dose in rats of 3683 mg/kg) caused marked maternal toxicity and an increase in the incidence of fetal malformations. This dose resulted in peak zidovudine plasma concentrations 350 times peak human plasma concentrations. No evidence of teratogenicity was seen in this experiment at doses of 600 mg/kg per day or less. Two rodent carcinogenicity studies were conducted (see Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility).

Antiretroviral Pregnancy Registry: To monitor maternal-fetal outcomes of pregnant women exposed to COMBIVIR and other antiretroviral agents, an Antiretroviral Pregnancy Registry has been established. Physicians are encouraged to register patients by calling 1-800-258-4263.

Nursing Mothers: The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommend that HIV-infected mothers not breastfeed their infants to avoid risking postnatal transmission of HIV infection.

COMBIVIR: Zidovudine is excreted in breast milk (see CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY: Pharmacokinetics: Nursing Mothers subsection of full prescribing information); however, no data are available on COMBIVIR or lamivudine. Therefore, there is a potential for adverse effects in nursing infants. Mothers should be instructed not to breastfeed if they are receiving COMBIVIR.

Pediatric Use: COMBIVIR should not be administered to pediatric patients less than 12 years of age because it is a fixed-dose combination that cannot be adjusted for this patient population.

Geriatric Use: Clinical studies of COMBIVIR did not include sufficient numbers of subjects aged 65 and over to determine whether they respond differently from younger subjects. In general, dose selection for an elderly patient should be cautious, reflecting the greater frequency of decreased hepatic, renal, or cardiac function, and of concomitant disease or other drug therapy. COMBIVIR is not recommended for patients with impaired renal function (i.e., creatinine clearance <50 mL/min; see PRECAUTIONS: Patients with Impaired Renal Function and DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION).

ADVERSE REACTIONS:

Lamivudine Plus Zidovudine Administered As Separate Formulations: In 4 randomized, controlled trials of EPVIR 300 mg per day plus RETROVIR 600 mg per day, the following selected clinical and laboratory adverse events were observed (see Tables 2 and 3).

Table 2: Selected Clinical Adverse Events (>5% Frequency) in 4 Controlled Clinical Trials With EPVIR 300 mg/day and RETROVIR 600 mg/day

Adverse Event	EPVIR plus RETROVIR (n = 251)
Body as a whole	
Headache	35%
Malaise & fatigue	27%
Fever or chills	10%
Digestive	
Nausea	33%
Diarrhea	18%
Nausea & vomiting	13%
Anorexia and/or decreased appetite	10%
Abdominal pain	9%
Abdominal cramps	6%
Dyspepsia	5%
Nervous system	
Neuropathy	12%
Insomnia & other sleep disorders	11%
Dizziness	10%
Depressive disorders	9%
Respiratory	
Nasal signs & symptoms	20%
Cough	18%
Skin	
Skin rashes	9%
Musculoskeletal	
Musculoskeletal pain	12%
Myalgia	8%
Arthralgia	5%

Pancreatitis was observed in 3 of the 656 adult patients (<0.5%) who received EPVIR in controlled clinical trials. Selected laboratory abnormalities observed during therapy are listed in Table 3.

Table 3: Frequencies of Selected Laboratory Abnormalities Among Adults in 4 Controlled Clinical Trials of EPVIR 300 mg/day plus RETROVIR 600 mg/day*

Test (Abnormal Level)	EPVIR plus RETROVIR % (n)
Neutropenia (ANC<750/mm ³)	7.2% (237)
Anemia (Hgb<8.0 g/dL)	2.9% (241)
Thrombocytopenia (platelets<50,000/mm ³)	0.4% (240)
ALT (>5.0 x ULN)	3.7% (241)
AST (>5.0 x ULN)	1.7% (241)
Bilirubin (>2.5 x ULN)	0.8% (241)
Amylase (>2.0 x ULN)	4.2% (72)

ULN = Upper limit of normal. ANC = Absolute neutrophil count. n = Number of patients assessed.

*Frequencies of these laboratory abnormalities were higher in patients with mild laboratory abnormalities at baseline.

Observed During Clinical Practice: In addition to adverse events reported from clinical trials, the following events have been identified during post-approval use of EPVIR and/or RETROVIR. Because they are reported voluntarily from a population of unknown size, estimates of frequency cannot be made. These events have been chosen for inclusion due to a combination of their seriousness, frequency of reporting, or potential causal connection to EPVIR and/or RETROVIR.

Endocrine and Metabolic: Hyperglycemia.

General: Sensitization reactions (including anaphylaxis), vasculitis.

Hepatobiliary Tract and Pancreas: Lactic acidosis and hepatic steatosis (see WARNINGS), pancreatitis.

Musculoskeletal: Muscle weakness, CPK elevation, rhabdomyolysis.

Nervous: Seizures.

Skin: Alopecia, erythema multiforme, Stevens-Johnson syndrome, urticaria.

OVERDOSSAGE:

COMBIVIR: There is no known antidote for COMBIVIR.

Lamivudine: One case of an adult ingesting 6 grams of lamivudine was reported; there were no clinical signs or symptoms noted and hematologic tests remained normal. It is not known whether lamivudine can be removed by peritoneal dialysis or hemodialysis.

Zidovudine: Acute overdoses of zidovudine have been reported in pediatric patients and adults. These involved exposures up to 50 grams. The only consistent findings were nausea and vomiting. Other reported occurrences included headache, dizziness, drowsiness, lethargy, confusion, and 1 report of a grand mal seizure. Hematologic changes were transient. All patients recovered. Hemodialysis and peritoneal dialysis appear to have a negligible effect on the removal of zidovudine while elimination of its primary metabolite, GZDV, is enhanced.

DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION: The recommended oral dose of COMBIVIR for adults and adolescents (at least 12 years of age) is 1 tablet (containing 150 mg of lamivudine and 300 mg of zidovudine) twice daily.

Dose Adjustment: Because it is a fixed-dose combination, COMBIVIR should not be prescribed for patients requiring dosage adjustment such as those with reduced renal function (creatinine clearance <50 mL/min) or those experiencing dose-limiting adverse events.

Lamivudine is manufactured under agreement from BioChem Pharma Inc. Laval, Quebec, Canada

US Patent Nos. 5,047,407, 4,818,538, 4,828,838, 4,724,232, 4,833,130; 4,837,208; 5,859,021 and 5,905,082

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GlaxoWellcome

Glaxo Wellcome Inc.
Research Triangle Park, NC 27709

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CBV470R0

June 2001

OBITUARIES

OBITUARY POLICY

Obituaries must be typed and no longer than 200 words. Please follow normal rules of capitalization — and no poetry. We reserve the right to edit for style, clarity, grammar, and taste.

If you're submitting a photo of the deceased, write their name on the back. If you include a SASE for the photo's return, write the person's name on the inside of the envelope flap. All obituaries must include a contact name and phone number. They must be submitted within a year of the death.

Deadline for obituaries is Monday at 5 p.m., with the exception of special display ad obituaries, which must be submitted by Friday at 3 p.m.

John W. Krawchuck ("JC")



Krawchuck, John W. "JC" — 53, of San Francisco, California, passed away on Thursday, November 15, 2001 with cancer. Born in Hamtramck, Michigan, he entered the U.S. Navy, which exposed him to the world of travel. He moved to San Francisco in early 1975 where he entered the travel industry, and was a travel consultant for 15 years with American Express travel, which led to Operations Manager for McCann Erickson Travel.

JC was also known as a bartender who had a shining smile and a quick joke for you from the Boot Camp to the Pilsner Inn. With his travel perks, you would never know where he would turn up or who he would just turn to and say "Hey, what are you doing this weekend? Let's go!"

JC is survived by his Michigan family — sister Betty, brother Bob, and nieces

and nephews — and his West Coast family — bro "PG&E" Jimmie, son Joe, his close friends from the "Landers Hilton" to the Russian River and Australia.

Memorial services were held in Sterling Heights, Michigan. In JC's memory, make donations to your favorite AIDS/HIV organization or St. Joseph Mercy Foundation/Cancer Treatment and Research, 15855 Nineteen Mile Rd., Clinton Township, MI 48038.

Thomas Michael Lalor
August 9, 1947 — October 28, 2001

beautiful pink shirt, thoroughly enjoying the unseasonable sunshine and the

company of Italian friends. After dinner, he didn't feel well and died in less than a minute, to the shock and horror of all. He will be buried in the Protestant Cemetery in Rome.

Tom was born and raised in Oakland. He attended St. Joseph's High School and USF before taking advanced degrees in special education and audiology at USC and SFSU. His specialty was teaching deaf and hard-of-hearing children under 5. To see him work with those kids was truly an inspiration. In the late 1970s Tom traveled extensively in Asia and Australia, while in recent years his travels took him mostly to Italy and Britain.

In addition to his passion for travel, Tom loved needlework, flowers, gardening, puzzles of all sorts, and his adored cats, Ky, Aja, Spot, and Julian. He struggled until he was able to speak passable Italian. Most of all, he enjoyed laughter and silliness.

Tom is survived by his beloved confidante and soulmate Janet Allyn and by many other friends and relatives in the Bay Area and elsewhere. He lived for nearly 19 years with me, Dan Morneau, and I will never, never forget his kindness, his respect and consideration for others, and his love for me.

A memorial get-together will take place in February. Call Fran or Iris at (415) 285-4536 for info.

Steven Leroy Smith

April 6, 1945 — November 18, 2001
Steven L. Smith, 56, died at 3:30 a.m. on Sunday, November 18, 2001 at Leland House, after a long struggle with AIDS. He defiantly loved and left his heart in San Francisco. He served in the U.S. Navy for four years. He came to San Francisco in 1964. He became a bartender at the Polk Gulch and the Castro



Street Station, and worked eight years at Norcal Mutual Insurance.

Steven is survived by his loving and caring mother Josephine (Jo) Smith of Santa Rosa, his sister Joan A. Gann, and two nephews, David Nas and Michael Gann, both of Santa Rosa, and an aunt Ila Drury of Arizona.

Steven was loved and will be missed by his many friends, and especially his caregiver and friend of three years Felicia A. Elizondo. Goodbye and sweet dreams my friend. And special thanks to St. Mary HIV Clinic and Leland House for taking care of Steven.

There will be a memorial at Leland House, at 141 Leland Ave., Saturday, December 8, 2001 at 12:00 p.m. In lieu of flowers, send donations to St. Anthony Foundation, Shanti, Project Open Hand, or Leland House. For information call (415) 626-5228.

Gay political science scholar Bob Bailey dies

by Bob Roehr

A leading scholar of gays and politics, Robert W. Bailey, died at the age of 50 on Thanksgiving Day in Manhattan. The professor of political science at Rutgers University had been hospitalized for about a month with complications of pulmonary hypertension.

Bailey was a graduate student of Ken Sherrill's at the City University of New York and later became his colleague. "Bob understood that being gay or lesbian created an identity and that could be translated into political action," just as economic class, race, ethnicity and other factors contribute to shaping identity, said Sherrill.

While Bailey was not the first to think this way, he was the first to create a solid empirical base of knowledge that demonstrated this fact, said Sherrill. "Probably no



Robert Bailey

one knew more or better about the field."

It played out in books such as *Gay Politics*, *Urban Politics* and scholarly papers aimed at academics, but also in the rough and tumble of electoral politics and

the most recent redistricting in New York. He wrote the "Out and Voting" monographs issued by the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force Policy Institute that demonstrated the impact of the gay vote in local and national elections.

"Bob Bailey was truly a pioneer in thinking about GLBT issues in the context of political science," said Lee Badgett. "He used numbers to help paint a picture of who gay people are politically." Badgett is director of the Institute of Gay and Lesbian Strategic Studies, housed at the University of Massachusetts in Amherst.

Colleagues praised Bailey for his generous spirit, the assistance he gave to others, and how, in Badgett's words, the work that he gathered and analyzed "made the world a better place for GLBT people." He is survived by Brian O'Dell, his partner of more than a decade, who resides in Cliffside Park, New Jersey. ▼

Syphilis declines in 2000

by Cynthia Laird

The overall syphilis rate in the United States fell to an all-time low in 2000, continuing a decade-long decline that places elimination of the sexually transmitted disease within closer reach, according to the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention. The new data was released Wednesday, November 28.

In San Francisco, the gay community has been told of an increase in syphilis rates among men who have sex with men for this year. Dr. Jeffrey Klausner, director of STD prevention for the San Francisco Department of Public Health, said last month that there have been 89 cases of syphilis among gay or bisexual men through the first nine months of this year.

In a statement, Klausner reiterated that the CDC was releasing data for 2000. "The CDC data is consistent with our 2000 data but now it is nearly the end of 2001 and times change such that through the end of October 2001 we now have 92 primary and secondary syphilis cases compared with 49 for the same period in 2000," Klausner said.

The national data were re-

leased at the opening of a CDC-sponsored conference in Dallas of community leaders and public health officials from around the country. The meeting, which continues through November 30, will address the CDC-led nationwide effort to eliminate syphilis, focusing in particular on public-private partnerships that have accelerated progress toward elimination in several communities.

"Eliminating syphilis would be landmark achievement and could reduce HIV transmission," Dr. Ronald Valdiserri, deputy director of the CDC's National Center for HIV, STD, and TB Prevention, said in a conference call with reporters Wednesday.

In 2000, only 5,979 cases of primary and secondary (P&S) syphilis were reported in the country, a decline of 9.6 percent since 1999.

"Syphilis is easily diagnosed and cured," Valdiserri said. He noted that syphilis rates are highest in poor African American communities, and he said elimination of the disease would end a "glaring racial disparity" in poor minority communities.

Areas that reported more than 100 cases of syphilis in 2000 included Cook County, Illinois

(Chicago); Marion County, Indiana (Indianapolis); Wayne County, Michigan (Detroit); Shelby County, Tennessee (Memphis); Baltimore, Maryland; Fulton County, Georgia (Atlanta); Davidson County, Tennessee (Nashville); Maricopa County, Arizona (Phoenix); Los Angeles County; Miami-Dade County; and Dallas County, Texas.

San Francisco was ranked 21 on the list with 51 cases of P&S syphilis reported in 2000, according to the CDC. That represents a rate of 6.8 cases for every 100,000 people, the agency stated.

"Syphilis rates in the United States have declined dramatically over the past four years, indicating significant progress in our syphilis elimination efforts," said Dr. Jeffrey P. Koplan, CDC director.

The CDC launched its plan to eliminate syphilis in the U.S. in 1998.

The CDC noted that year 2000 syphilis rates among men who have sex with men remains a problem in some cities, but San Francisco was not on the agency's list of cities that have seen an increase. Cities where outbreaks of syphilis have occurred among men who have sex with men include Los Angeles, Seattle, New York City, Chicago, and Miami Beach. ▼

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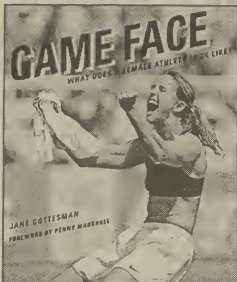
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Pages

by Jim Provenzano

Huddled indoors with your love of sports hindered by wintry weather? Curl up to a good book, or consider some of these titles for your gift list.



Game Face: What Does a Female Athlete Look Like? by Jane Gottesman (Smithsonian Institution Books) \$35.

Created and edited by Jane Gottesman, and including a foreword from Penny Marshall, director of *A League of Their Own*, this book covers women in sports from the 19th to the 21st century. The pictures capture superstar athletes like Serena Williams and Jackie Joyner-Kersey, along with small-town sports victors like the determined young "tomboy on a skateboard."

The photographs show the agony of defeat to the gritty triumph of victory on the faces of women from all around the world. It's a magnificent display of woman power on the field and court, in the ring and stadium, and beyond.

Former sportswriter Gottesman began this project in response to the dearth of photographs of female athletes in newspapers and sports magazines.

Published in conjunction with last summer's Smithsonian photo exhibition (which will tour for five years), this book features almost 200 color and black-and-white photos of female athletes of various races and ages playing sports.

The images depict historically significant moments, from Martina Navratilova and Chris Evert arm-wrestling, Tonya Harding's

hit-woman skating notoriety, Brandi Chastain's sports bra moment – which is also featured on the cover – and lesser-known yet momentous events for amateur female athletes.

Throughout the writings there is an emphasis on the freedom and progress that has been achieved since the passage of Title IX in 1972. Although the final segment, "Snapshots from Women's Sports History," begins in 1827, it is particularly interesting to follow the highlights from the past 30 years.

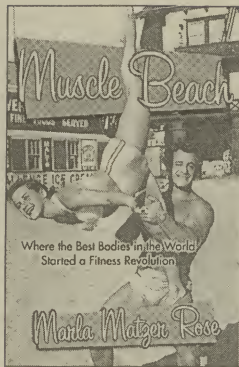
Gottesman, Game Face project director and co-curator, was a reporter at the *San Francisco Chronicle*, a contributing writer to *Women's Sports & Fitness* magazine, a writer and associate producer for ABC Sports, and co-editor of the book *Play Like a Girl*. She's definitely got a hit with this book. It's currently one of Amazon.com's top 400 titles.

Outbound: Finding a Man, Sailing an Ocean by William Storandt (University of Wisconsin Press) \$29.95.

Graced with an unusually apt title that embraces both the gay concept of coming out and the nautical term for leaving port, this compelling memoir weaves Storandt's tentative coming out during the late 1960s and 1970s with a jaunty account of an Atlantic Ocean crossing with his life partner, Brian, in the early 1980s. He writes with a charming mix of wry self-analysis, dryly witty travel commentary and narrative energy, particularly when it comes to a storm-tossed passage on his crossing to Scotland. The result is a stellar life story with broad appeal.

Gay readers of a certain age who came out during the Vietnam War will identify with Storandt's charming, somewhat fumbling progress toward finding a gay lover, while younger gay readers should enjoy a cheerful history lesson. At the same time, fellow sailors will be caught up in the author's obvious passion for sailing and the sea, and will savor the book's nautical savvy and insight. Just as captivating are the quick sketches Storandt draws of his life before sailing and coming out, first as a Juilliard-trained orchestral percussionist in New York (session work included banging tambourines in studio sessions for the Monkees), then as a geodesic-dome-dwelling Vermont.

Storandt's engaging twist on the coming out story and the credibility he's acquired as a 20-year contributor to *Cruising World* magazine make this memoir a book for both gay readers and sailors of any persuasion.



Muscle Beach by Marla M. Rose (LA Weekly Books) \$16.95.

Almost half a century before health clubs, fitness videos, and weight training became American obsessions, a pioneering enclave in Santa Monica, California, started the physical culture boom.

In the 1940s, Jack LaLanne, Vic Tanny, Joe Gold, Les and Pudgy Stockton, and others like them drew thousands of visitors to the beach to watch their feats of strength and acrobatic displays. As more viewers became participants, bodybuilding and fitness became a part of the mainstream culture. *Muscle Beach* is full of rich, new material about the original Muscle Beachers, many of whom are still alive and testaments to the benefits of a life devoted to fitness. With fresh anecdotes and rare photographs, this history brings a legendary stretch of beach into focus.

Gymnasium by Luke Smalley (Twin Palms Publishers) \$60.

The driving energy of teenage boys is the force behind these interesting photographs of boys in various sport activities that are perceived to be from an earlier time period. All photographs are black and white and are excellently executed by Luke Smalley as he wistfully takes us back to a simpler time, even if they are only perceived nostalgia on paper and in our memories. A full review of this book will appear in the Arts section soon.

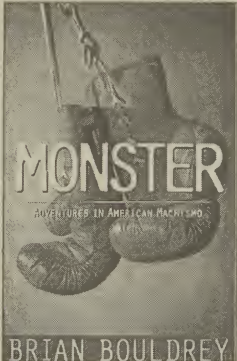
Muscular Christianity: Manhood and Sports in Protestant America, 1880-1920 by Clifford Putney (Harvard University Press) \$39.95.

To be "manly," it was thought, required a combination of well-muscled athleticism and Protestant piety, and the place to train youths to that end was the school playing field.

The re-institutionalization of sports in schools, while often done nude in YMCAs, offered none of the obvious homoeroticism of today's Aberzombie sexuality. Pairing physicality with fervent

faithfulness may have buffered any trace of sexuality, or perhaps it was simply ignored.

Eventually muscular Christianity, like the WASP ascendancy, faded away, a victim of the new American order. It lingers on in altered form in such guy-oriented establishments as the Fellowship of Christian Athletes and the Promise Keepers, but it is a period piece from a time long since gone. Putney's book, thorough if not entirely lively, puts the last nail in its coffin.



Monster: Adventures in American Machismo by Brian Bouldrey (Council Oak Books) \$12.95.

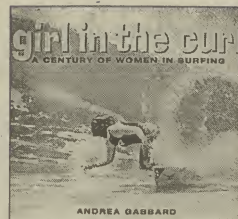
While not completely about sports, renowned fiction author Brian Bouldrey (*The Genius of Desire, Love, the Magician*) and editor (*Best American Gay Fiction, Wrestling With the Angel*, and the *SF Bay Guardian's* Literary Supplement) offers telling essays that amusingly tears down the walls of machismo with a featherweight punch.

In *Monster*, an outsider looks into this masculine world – sometimes admiringly, sometimes critically, but always in a playful, fiercely intelligent style that is threaded with perceptive autobiographical reflection. Bouldrey ponders the nature of masculinity from a "sissy's" perspective. The author visits stereotypical scenes of masculine excess – the rodeo, the bachelor party, and the World Wrestling Federation, among others – as jumping-off points for a series of revealing riffs on masculinity, sexuality, and friendship.

On the Water by H. M. van den Brink, Paul Vincent (Translator) (Grove Press) \$21.

Rowing is a sport in which the athletes on a given team are so tightly intertwined that, during optimal performance, total synchronization occurs. The mental bond that exists between good rowers is a powerful one, and van den Brink's tight, precise novel, set in 1939 as two young men undergo rigorous crew training on a river in Holland, offers a beautiful example of one such union.

In the golden Amsterdam summer of 1939 on a crystal river in Holland, two young oarsmen train with a rather mysterious German coach. Anton, a shy teenager from a lower-class family, is paired with David, self-assured and affluent, and suddenly into Anton's drab life there is the river, boats, woods, the flash of sunlight on the copper oarlocks, and his strong, silent, almost amorous understanding of David. All summer, a quiet obsession and magical bond forms between them. While not overtly gay, it offers a romantic aspect to this intense team sport.



Girl in the Curl: A Century of Women's Surfing by Andrea Gabbard (Seal Press) \$29.95.

The sweeping presence of the X chromosome in the water is proven in this groundbreaking – make that wave-breaking – book. Did you know that the first Australian surfer was a woman (Isobel Letham, 1915)? Marge Calhoun won the Makaha International Surfing Championships in 1958, and Margo (Godfrey) Oberg won her first world title at age 15. Along with these little-known facts are personal stories and amazing pictures.

It's put together more like an organic herstory told by the participants than a consecutive series of events written by some third-party narrator up in the sky. From Marge Calhoun to Rell Sunn to Joyce Hoffman to Pam Burridge to Layne Beachley and the rest of the 21st century pros, Gabbard has done her homework.

Each woman profiled has a slightly different take on what it means to be a woman surfer. While some may have a little bitterness about lack of exposure or unfair financial compensation, it seems deserved when one notices that most surfing magazines only feature women in bikinis in sun-screen ads.



Stardust Girl: A Memoir by Jan Welles (Alyson Books) \$13.95.

If Patricia Nell Warren's *The Wild Man* got you interested in a gay take on bullfighting, here's a women's memoir on the same sometimes grisly event.

A candid and intriguing memoir, *Stardust Girl* tells the roller-coaster saga of a woman who was both a ravishing, velvety-voiced crooner and one of the first female bullfighters in the world. When a contract offer from Las Vegas revealed a deal with the Mafia that would control her life, she walked away from the stage forever. Ranging from the dazzling lights of Broadway to dusty Mexican bullfighting rings, from flings with Lana Turner and Paulette Goddard to a sexual assault by Broadway impresario Billy Rose, Jan Welles's tale is a saucy story of achievement, dander, and the ultimate triumph of being true to yourself. ▼

Most of these books are available at A Different Light, Books Inc. and other local stores. You can also click through the Amazon.com link on www.sportscomplex.org in between reading some of my past articles.

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HIV bombshell

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completed next year.

Already, two agencies, San Francisco's Stop AIDS Project and Wisconsin-based AIDS Resource Center, have been targeted by Representative Mark Souder (R-Indiana) for being in noncompliance with federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines that state programs must neither encourage sexual activity nor be "obscene."

Souder chairs a subcommittee that has oversight of the Department of Health and Human Services and the Ryan White CARE Act programs. ACT UP/San Francisco activists and others have flooded committee aides and members with e-mails calling into question the practices and programs of HIV/AIDS prevention workers and agencies.

As representatives from the House and Senate meet this week to hammer out a compromise bill on funding for the AIDS Drug Assistance Program and the Ryan White CARE Act, the comments by Coates and ACT UP/SF could negatively impact those amounts, said one Washington source.

"It is hard for advocates to argue for more money in either bill when people either in the health department or political groups argue for less funding," said Roland Foster, a Republican committee aide for the Subcommittee of Government Re-

form on Criminal Justice, Drug Policy and Human Resources.

When contacted by the *Bay Area Reporter*, Coates said his intent with the interview was to stimulate discussion and debate within the gay community.

"What I am calling for is simply to open up the discussion and think about the full range of options before us. Stopping these programs is one of those options," he said.

He acknowledged that his comments could be used by those looking to ax AIDS funding. But he said the discussion needs to take place on which prevention programs are effective and which are not.

"It is scary to raise these questions because there are political enemies out there who want to take everything away. I can't be fearful of the outcome of that discussion. One has to allow the discussion to go where it will go," said Coates. "If we are fearful of discussion then we are fearful of open thinking and frank talk, and that is not what we are all about."

Those contacted by the *B.A.R.* about Coates's remarks said they were surprised by his statements.

"I was quite taken aback by it. That is his million dollar advice to the taxpayer," said Foster, referring to the millions of dollars UCSF receives in federal funding for the two programs Coates directs. "It is AIDS complacency at its worst. I certainly hope it is not reflective of other people's attitudes."

Foster, who used to work for a

pediatric AIDS agency in Virginia and for former Congressman Tom Coburn (R-Oklahoma), said he doubts the federal government would totally cut off funding for prevention programs.

"We are investing \$11 billion dollars at the federal level. I don't think we are going to give up that commitment," he said.

Nor is the city's health department in a position to abandon its HIV prevention programs, said San Francisco deputy director of health James Loyce Jr.

"In the Department of Public Health, we have a responsibility as long as there is an epidemic which is reportable to in fact try to create prevention strategies to reduce, and or hopefully eliminate, that virus, that disease through prevention strategies and further through the development of vaccines and vaccine trials," said Loyce, who oversees the department's AIDS programs. "We are duty bound in the health department to continue to attempt to respond to this epidemic and create prevention strategies with the community that will hopefully have a greater impact on reduction of HIV infection."

Dr. Ron Falcon, a board member of the Gay and Lesbian Medical Association, said he disagrees with the idea of eliminating prevention programs.

"It is interesting but I don't think it is time to give up. The prevention message has to reach people who are infected and are not infected," said Falcon, director of the

Minnesota Comprehensive Care Center in St. Paul. "People with HIV are not going to come to hear the message how not to get infected. But with every single patient I see with HIV, the last thing we talk about is how are we preventing you from infecting other people."

As for Coates, he said he hopes the gay community begins to address what are effective prevention

programs.

"I would hope that the community can hear the statements and engage in a broad ranging discussion on what it wants to do," said Coates. "Clearly the community wants treatment. But what does it really want for prevention?"

The full text of Coates's interview can be found on www.gay.com in the HIVlife section. ▼

LEGAL NOTICES

STATEMENT FILE NO. 252650

The following person(s) are doing business as: Vee Taylor, 1847 Lincoln Way, San Francisco, Ca. 94122. This business is conducted by an individual signed Wah-Kam Cheung. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 10/30/2001. NOV. 8, 15, 22, 29, 2001

STATEMENT FILE NO. 252669

The following person(s) are doing business as: Blackbelt Direct, Inc. 1800 Bryant Street Unit 214, San Francisco, Ca. 94110. This business is conducted by a corporation signed Anthony Branda, president. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, October 30, 2001. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 10/30/2001. NOV. 8, 15, 22, 29, 2001

STATEMENT FILE NO. 252700

The following person(s) are doing business as: LSK Consulting, 538 42nd Avenue Apt. A, San Francisco, Ca. 94121. This business is conducted by an individual signed Larry Stephen Kravitz. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, October 31, 2001. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 10/31/2001. NOV. 8, 15, 22, 29, 2001

STATEMENT FILE NO. 252728

The following person(s) are doing business as: Chavez & Associates, 1274 Green Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94109. This business is conducted by an individual signed Paul Vincent Chavez. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, November 01, 2001. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 11/01/2001. NOV. 8, 15, 22, 29, 2001

STATEMENT FILE NO. 252634

The following person(s) are doing business as: Flowers, 511 Laguna Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94102. This business is conducted by an individual signed Hal Thomas Reid Jr. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 10/30/2001. NOV. 8, 15, 22, 29, 2001

STATEMENT FILE NO. 252238

The following person(s) are doing business as: Esquivel Delivery Service, 130 Granville Way, San Francisco, Ca. 94127. This business is conducted by an individual signed Anthony Esquivel. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, March 10, 2001. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 10/15/2001. NOV. 15, 22, 29, DEC. 6, 2001

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME, FILE NO: 2001-0247140-00

The following person (persons) have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name known as: West Ocean Trading Co. Located at: 848 Edinburg Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94112. The fictitious name referred to above was filed in the County of San Francisco on: March 02, 2001. This business was conducted by: a General Partnership signed: Danny R Q Wong and Richu Huang. NOV. 8, 15, 22, 29, 2001

STATEMENT FILE NO. 252581

The following person(s) are doing business as: Bangkok Best #2 181 O'Farrell Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94102. This business is conducted by an individual signed Vena Shotevayaratana. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 10/26/2001. NOV. 15, 22, 29, DEC. 6, 2001

STATEMENT FILE NO. 252851

The following person(s) are doing business as: Domoras Gallery For Voice, 950 Harrison Street #214, San Francisco, Ca. 94107. This business is conducted by an individual signed William T. Domoras. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, October 15, 2001. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 11/06/2001. NOV. 15, 22, 29, DEC. 6, 2001

STATEMENT FILE NO. 252709

The following person(s) are doing business as: Paralelene Software, 302 Garces Drive, San Francisco, Ca. 94132. This business is conducted by husband and wife, signed Neil Gregory Luna and Winnie Chau. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 10/31/2001. NOV. 15, 22, 29, DEC. 6, 2001

STATEMENT FILE NO. 252953

The following person(s) are doing business as: Jin Qing Construction Co, 2927 Balboa Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94121. This business is conducted by an individual signed Jin Qing Liang. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, November 13, 2001. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 11/13/2001. NOV. 15, 22, 29, DEC. 6, 2001

STATEMENT FILE NO. 252973

The following person(s) are doing business as: Harlin Consulting, 318 Caselli Avenue, San Francisco, Ca. 94114. This business is conducted by an individual signed Thomas H. Smith. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, March 20, 1992. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 11/13/2001. NOV. 22, 29, DEC. 6, 13, 2001

Adoption

page 5

such adoptions are not permitted under the California adoption statutes.

For registered department partners, the opinion may be irrelevant, as these couples can enjoy legal protections under Assemblywoman Carole Migden's AB25, which goes into effect in January and grants step-parent adoptions to partners.

But for other parents, the ruling has significant consequences, particularly for those who do not qualify for domestic partnership or choose, for various reasons, not to get registered. This would include joint parenthood by a gay man and a lesbian, as well as parenthood by same-sex couples who may have legal ties to a former spouse.

That is why legislation is still needed, according to state Senator John Burton (D-San Francisco), who has drafted a proposal that will be introduced during the next

legislative session.

Burton's proposal makes the recent court decision moot by stating, "The adoption of a child by an adult unrelated to the parent of the child pursuant to a final court order issued on or before January 1, 2002 based on a policy, practice, or procedure authorized by the California Department of Social Services shall be valid and enforceable. On and after January 1, 2002, the Department of Social Services shall continue to have implicit statutory authority to facilitate and recommend second-parent adoptions for court approval pursuant to established departmental policies, practices, or procedures."

What this pending legislation will do, according to Burton staff member Dana Mitchell, is provide the language that the court said was needed in order to validate second-parent adoptions.

"The court stated the Legislature did not intend to give the Department of Social Services the ability to grant these adoptions," Mitchell told the *Bay Area Re-*

porter. "We've drafted an intent bill that simply says, 'The court was wrong. We said it, we meant it, and now we're clarifying it.'"

Mitchell said the Burton bill was drafted in cooperation with Migden's office, which had planned to issue a legislative protection of its own. Migden's bill, according to Mitchell, would have grandfathered existing second-parent adoptions in light of the original court ruling, which actually referenced Migden's AB25 as a remedy to its decision to minimize "the feared impact of this decision on those relationships." But because that ruling has since been modified, and because additional protections would be necessary despite AB25, Burton's bill cuts right to the chase by addressing the questions raised by the court.

"The court pointing to AB25 kind of misses the point of the thousands of existing families that this affects and doesn't address issues that may come up in the future," said Mitchell. "This bill allows more discretion to go to DSS, which is where it belongs." ▼

Jim Lazarus

page 1

give money to an attorney who could be handling the case unless they thought they could get something out of it?"

United Airlines did not return phone calls from the *Bay Area Reporter* seeking comment.

Lazarus, however, responded

by issuing a statement that was attached to a news release announcing the endorsement of his candidacy by multimillionaire gay philanthropist James Hormel.

"I strongly believe in the equal benefits legislation and will continue to vigorously support and defend it as San Francisco's next city attorney," said the statement from Lazarus. "My supporters know a campaign contribution

will not alter my long held beliefs in human rights for the LGBT community and my support for domestic partnership legislation, equal benefits legislation, and civil rights."

It is exactly this kind of reference to past support for LGBT equality that worries many gay rights activists, who remember a different version of Lazarus's past. ▼

Our Man Friday

page 14

at the 8th supervisorial seat held currently by Assembly candidate Mark Leno, but others such as **Bevan Duffy** and **BART** director **Tom Radulovich** are said to be very interested.

Meanwhile, some City Hall gossips are saying that another 13th Assembly District candidate, **Steve Phillips**, would be well served to

look for another platform on which to run instead of his record as school board president; too many unanswered questions there (a position from which he quit, incidentally).

From Alaska comes word that the city of Anchorage and the state of Alaska don't have to extend benefits to gay or lesbian partners of employees or retirees. Judge **Stephanie Joanides** ruled last week that same-sex couples are in the same legal category as unmarried male-female couples, who

aren't eligible for benefits. Plaintiffs argued that they, like married couples, intend to stay together for life.

Finally, a "quote of the week" (if you will) from our beloved **Bette Midler**, singing at a tribute to New York City's outgoing hugely popular Mayor Rudolph Giuliani. Bette sang: "When we were down and out, who helped us heal? He's got a heart of gold and balls made of steel..." (you get the picture - they love the guy).

And how was your week? ▼

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LEGAL NOTICES

CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS: LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE & RELATED SERVICES COMMUNITY FACILITY DISTRICT NO. 1, RINCON POINT-SOUTH BEACH, REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT AREA. Request for a RFP Packet:
Linda Ma at (415) 749-2466 or www.ci.sf.ca.us/sfra for additional details.
San Francisco Redevelopment Agency, 770 Golden Gate Ave., San Francisco, CA 94102.

YOUTH RECOGNITION DAY:

On Monday, December 3, 2001, @ 4 p.m., The Board of Supervisors and the Youth Commission present Youth Recognition Day, a day in which the Board of Supervisors will recognize and honor 11 youth who have made a positive impact on their community. Location: Legislative Chamber, City Hall Room 250. For more information, call the Youth Commission (415) 554-6446.

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS

The Department of Children, Youth and Their Families announce the availability of funds for a K-8 After School Initiative. This initiative, named SF TEAM (San Francisco Together Education Accomplishes More) is a new program that promotes literacy skills for low achieving children who attend public schools from grade K-8. The SF TEAM Initiative requires a partnership between San Francisco public schools and nonprofit community based organizations. Planning grants are available to collaboration in each of the supervisorial districts. Approved plans will result in a \$100,000 operational grant. Guidelines are provided in the Request for Proposal (RFP). The RFP's will be available for pick up on November 26, 2001 between 8:30 am and 5:00 pm at: Dept. of Children, Youth and Their Families, 1390 Market Street, Ste. 900, San Francisco, CA 94102.

Applications are due at DCYF on December 21, 2001 by 5:00 pm. Late applications will not be accepted, regardless of postmark. DCYF strongly encourages hand delivery of proposals.

RUN-OFF ELECTION FOR THE OFFICE OF CITY ATTORNEY will be held on December 11, 2001. The Dept. of Elections will be open for early voting in City Hall (Weekdays from 8AM-5PM, weekends from 10AM - PM, and on Election Day from 7AM-8PM).

Absentee: If you voted by mail for the November 6 Election, you will automatically receive an absentee ballot for the December 11 Run-Off, unless you requested not to receive one.

If you did not vote by mail in the 11/6/01 election, you may request an absentee ballot by cutting out the application from the back cover of the Runoff Voter Information Pamphlet. Complete the application, put it into an envelope and mail it to Elections; or, you may pick up an absentee ballot application at the Dept. of Elections.

The last day to submit a request for an absentee ballot is Tuesday, December 4, no later than 5:00PM. Fax your request to 415-554-4372. If you have any questions, please contact the Dept. of Elections at (415) 554-4376 or visit our web site at www.sfgov.org/election. EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY S.E. MUNI is seeking qualified individuals for the following position: ELECTRICAL TRANSIT SYSTEM MECHANIC. The current salary range is \$46,800 to \$56,888. Exceptional benefits are provided. EOE

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STATEMENT FILE NO. 252979

The following person(s) are doing business as: Film-Theatre Actors Exchange, 390 28th Avenue #3, San Francisco, CA 94121. This business is conducted by an individual signed Craig Jones. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, December 18, 1991. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 11/13/2001.

NOV. 22, 29, DEC. 6, 13, 2001

STATEMENT FILE NO. 252568

The following person(s) are doing business as: SF Fusion Volleyball, 204 Cheney Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94131. This business is conducted by a general partnership signed Bich-Khoi Du and Joyce N. Nilo. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, October 22, 2001. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 10/26/2001.

NOV. 22, 29, DEC. 6, 13, 2001

STATEMENT FILE NO. 253075

The following person(s) are doing business as: New Cheung Hing Restaurant, 1936 Irving Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94122. This business is conducted by husband and wife signed Kin Bun and Dina Shu Honglam. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, October 26, 2001. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 11/16/2001.

NOV. 22, 29, DEC. 6, 13, 2001

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR CHANGE IN OWNERSHIP OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE LICENSE

To Whom It May Concern: The Name of the Applicant(s) is: Ji Young Hee. The applicants listed above are applying to the Department of Alcoholic Beverages Control at: 185 Berry Street, Suite #5600 San Francisco, Ca. 94107, to sell alcoholic beverages at: 229 Columbus Avenue, San Francisco, Ca. 94133. Type of license Applied for:

41-ON- SALE BEER AND WINE EATING PLACE
NOVEMBER 22, 2001

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME. FILE NO: 220519

The following person (persons) have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name known as: Divas. Located at: 1081 Post Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94107. The fictitious name referred to above was filed in the County of San Francisco on: February 5, 1998.

This business was conducted by: a Business Trust: Mark Gilpin
NOV. 22, 29, DEC. 6, 13, 2001

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME. FILE NO: 223982

The following person (persons) have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name known as: New Cheung Hing Restaurant. Located at: 1936 Irving Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94122. The fictitious name referred to above was filed in the County of San Francisco on: July 6, 1998. This business was conducted by: an individual: Peter Hao Zheng,
NOV. 22, 29, DEC. 6, 13, 2001



IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO FILE NO. 540046

In the Matter of the Application of Teiray Lavi Bordo For change of Name. The application of Teiray Lavi Bordo for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Teiray Lavi Bordo, has filed an application proposing that his/her name be changed to Matan Lavi Bordo. Now therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department 218 on the 17th day of January, 2002; at 9:00am., of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted.
NOV. 29, DEC. 6, 13, 20, 2001

STATEMENT FILE NO. 253138

The following person(s) are doing business as: S.F. Wizard 4032 19th St. San Francisco, CA 94114. This business is conducted by an individual, signed Peter E. Warner. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 11-01-01. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 11/20/2001.

NOV. 29, DEC. 6, 13, 20, 2001

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LEGAL NOTICES

STATEMENT FILE NO. 253071
The following person(s) are doing business as: Just Fix It! 1015 Pierce Street #203, San Francisco, Ca. 94115. This business is conducted by an individual signed Jim Stahl. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, November 16, 2001. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 11/26/2001.
NOV. 22, 29, DEC. 6, 13, 2001

STATEMENT FILE NO. 253097
The following person(s) are doing business as: Divas. 1081 Post Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94109. This business is conducted by an individual signed Stephen Charles Berkey. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 11/16/2001.
NOV. 22, 29, DEC. 6, 13, 2001

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'Wayfaring Stranger' comes to SF
Countertenor Andreas Scholl sings folk-
songs with Orpheus Chamber Orchestra.
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Change is good
SF Opera season rallies
with Janacek's 'Jenufa.'
page 32



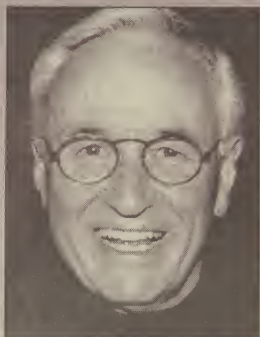
Puppets twist & shout
Basil Twist's 'Araneidae'
bows at the Noh Space.
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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

BAY AREA REPORTER

Vol. 31 • No. 48 • 29 November 2001



Father Mychal Judge, NYFD chaplain

Remembered blessings

In the Life' profiles
gay casualty of Sept. 11

by Mark J. Huisman

Like many queer Americans, I was saddened that so many people from our community were lost on September 11. I was particularly struck by the story of Father Mychal Judge, a New York City Fire Department chaplain who died while administering last rites to a fallen firefighter. Judge was memorialized on the cover of the NYC gay newspaper *LGNY* with the headline, "The Face of Our Loss," and his funeral service was televised live.

But public television's gay news-magazine *In the Life* is the first news organization to broadcast a segment specifically about Judge, who was revealed after his death to be a more complex person than many thought. "A Friend and Hero" opens *ITL*'s December episode, which airs Wed., Dec. 26, 11 p.m. on KQED, Channel 9 in San Francisco. It also airs Sat., Dec. 8, 11 p.m. on KCSM, Channel 60 in San Mateo.

The first image of *ITL*'s segment is hauntingly arresting: Five men carry Judge's limp, dusty body away from the disaster site, their strained expressions somehow softened by the presence of death. As the camera pulls in, Judge's lifeless face nonetheless radiates the angelic gentility many of his friends and colleagues describe.

"Mychal was a really dear friend of mine, and more than that, I consider him a role model," says Father Brian Carroll, a fellow priest who knew Judge for 20 years. "We would be walking down the street on our way to get coffee, and Mychal would give away everything he had," Carroll laughs. "So when we got to the restaurant, we had nothing to spend." Judge played a pivotal role in helping Carroll understand that his religious calling and his sexuality were not mutually exclusive.

The most moving tribute comes
page 44 ►

Black is beautiful

San Francisco Black Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Film Festival debuts



by Adam Sandel

On Friday, November 30, this ethnically and sexually diverse city by the Bay will host the opening night of the world's first Black Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Film Festival. Sponsored by the Black Coalition on AIDS' Man2Man program, the three-day festival of international films and workshops will take place at the Brava (formerly York) Theatre, 2789 24th Street in San Francisco.

The 32 films on offer range from short subjects to feature-length, and they cover the full gamut of genres, from documentary to drama and comedy.

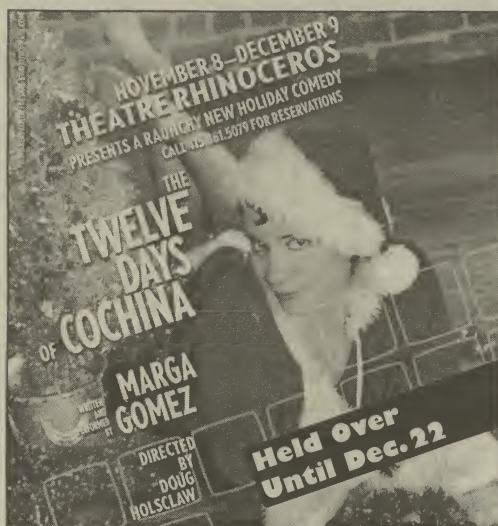
Festival workshops include a panel which asks the question, "Is LGBT Tantamount to White?" (Sat., Dec. 1, 11 am), exploring how mainstream media and traditional gay and lesbian film festivals are notable for their lack of racial and ethnic diversity.

The SF Black LGBT Film Festival, by contrast, is an attempt to remedy the exclusion of people of color in gay films, while highlighting the educational, AIDS prevention, and outreach services provided by the Man2Man program. Some highlights of the festival follow.

The gala opening night, beginning with a recep-
page 39 ►

Black female impersonators
from Toronto star in the
documentary *Divas: Love
Me Forever*, showing on
Saturday, December 1 at
10:05 p.m. at the Brava
Theatre in San Francisco

SECOND OF TWO SECTIONS



by Roberto Friedman
and Ty Boroughs

Where in the world was Out There last week? Nowhere else but two little burbs called **New York City** and **Washington, DC**. Call it our little "homeland-defense" tour of the front lines. We really, really tried, but we just couldn't squeeze in **Kabul** this trip.

Downtown, uptown, all around the town, the Bronx is up and the Battery's down, and so was Out There — down in the subway, that is, which we love to take so we can mix with the populace and catch some local color. Authorities were busy testing the Lex. Ave. line for traces of anthrax, since it had been the commuter route of mystery anthrax victim **Kathy T. Nguyen**. No 'thrax spores were found, just bezillions of all sorts of other microbial flora and fauna. Color us relieved.

New York was also crawling with plenty of energy not bacterial. Ran into former **BAR** arts editor **Daniel Mangin** outside Joe's Pub at the Public Theatre, there with editor **Craig Seligman** and the legendary **Silvana Nova** to see salty lesbian phenomenon **Lea DeLaria**.

Then OT and our traveling compupuppy **Pepi** scooted around the corner to 45 Bleeker, where the **Reverend Billy** and the Church of Stop the Bombing were holding forth. We were warned upon entering that we'd be subject to racial profiling: white, middle-class, heterosexual men would be questioned, and in some cases strip-searched. We don't fit the profile (ethnic, working-class, gay as box of birds) but were nevertheless stopped and interrogated by a deacon of the Rev's church. Had we enjoyed Mediterranean food any time during the last six months? Had we nibbled even a **falafel**? Though we hadn't, it was no use, and we were not strip-searched.

It's not easy being a peace activist these days, and Rev. Billy testified that his was a diffi-cult. But it sure is easy, if you're a firefighter, to get worshipful looks and waves to the truck. People gave up



One of many shrines to New York City firefighters, November 2001

their seats in deli joints to fire dept. bagel klatches, and that just ain't our fathers' New York. Now more than ever, a working-class hero is something to be.

The ruins and mass burial grounds at **Ground Zero** continued to smolder all these weeks out.

Against Manhattan's night backdrop of the Empire State Building lit up red, white and blue, it was still good to hear Rev. Billy preach pacifism. It's okay to be

against the **Evil One** and also to question the wisdom of bomb overkill — the latest military catch-phrase, "precision bombing," being a colossal oxymoron.

But did someone say we're in a war? Then how come it's still OK to guzzle an SUV, solo, down the city street? Not a whole lot of miles to the gallon there, even with **Old Glory** waving from the car antenna.

The most compelling examples of public art on view in NY right now are the spontaneous shrines, fliers with names, pictures and replenished flowers, gracing the entrance of every fire and police station we passed. The hottest gallery show right now is **Here Is New York**, in a storefront at 116 Prince St. in SoHo. Photographs of Sept. 11 NYC, from amateurs and professionals alike, are offered to the gallery, scanned

in, digitally printed, hung on the walls or strung like prayer flags. Pictures go for \$25, proceeds to the victims, and they're selling like roasted chestnuts at Yankee Stadium.

Show-business troupers carry on. Last Monday, those SF-to-NYC sensations **the Kinsey Sicks** (**the Andrews Sisters** of our time?) performed live in the windows of Bloomingdale's flagship Manhattan store. Window-shoppers were treated to the Sicks' shtick, whether they wanted it or not. They were a **cappella** accosted. It truly is the holiday season. As the Sicks themselves ask, "With this much bad taste, who needs fruitcake and egg nog?"

DC comics

Meanwhile, in our nation's capital, **Pres. W** pardoned a turkey he called **Liberty**, who promptly bit him on national TV. W "joked" — if that's really the term for a guy who can't seem to tell one — that the alternate turkey, **Freedom**, was safely sequestered in an undisclosed location. If that's so, maybe **Freedom** can tell the FBI if dour, dumpy **Dick Cheney** is there with him, as they seem to have misplaced him.

Down in DC's Metro subway system, there was a "police situation" at one of the stops on the green line, so the train went right past our station. Turned out some white powder which later proved harmless had been spilled on the platform. Just some clown going to work at Judiciary Square who dropped his makeup.

Galleries at the Renwick, the Hirshhorn and the National were, like the Mall, strangely underpopulated for a fine fall day in DC. In the Hemicycle at the Corcoran Gallery of Art, digitally manipulated photographs by 30-year-old **Anthony Goicolea** feature the artist interacting with himself in multiple as schoolboys might: fighting, kissing, whacking off together. It's hard to believe this is the same museum that nixed the **Robert Mapplethorpe** exhibit.

Then we were proud to be in **Baltimore** as Maryland's law banning discrimination based on sexual orientation took effect. Right-wingers admitted they were losers and didn't have enough signatures for the petition they needed to throw the law back into referendum.

Also in Baltimore, filmmaker **John Waters** began casting call in his old hometown for the Broadway-bound version of his '88 film **Hairspray**. Waters described to the **Baltimore Sun** his ideal for the role of teen star **Tracy Turnblad**: "a baby **Divine** and **Ricki Lake** put together, who can sing like **Ethel Merman**." That's a tall order — for anywhere else but Baltimore. ▼

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'Snake in Fridge' at Actors Theatre of SF

by Richard Dodds

Size does matter in *Snake in Fridge*, a play that offers no soothing strokes to the under-endowed. A central character, in fact, is willing to kill to pay for an operation that will give him the dick of his — and everyone else's — dreams.

But this cock shock is just one of the dramas ranging from domestic to bizarre that affect the residents of a rundown Victorian house in Brad Fraser's uneven but strangely engrossing play. The latest work from Canada's most visible gay playwright is having its US premiere at Actors Theatre of San Francisco, where the performances outshine a choppy production.

Fraser, best known for his play *Unidentified Human Remains*, was most recently represented on local stages with the gay political drama *Martin Yesterday*. In *Snake in Fridge*, he has created a haunted-house tale for a lost generation mired in sex, drugs, pornography, and easily sidetracked ambitions.

"Nothing good ever happened in this house," says the landlady ominously near the start of the play. This dragon lady is also a pornographer who wants to hire her tenants to appear on her on-line sex site, a chance for easy money that roils relationships among the sexually fluid roommates, who are dealing with a myriad of other issues, including a pet snake on the loose.

The play is made up of 80 short scenes that are not intended to stand alone, but to be part of a filmic experience. Unfortunately, director Christian Phillips employs blackouts between most scenes, and even when they last just a few seconds, they undo the effect that Fraser is trying to create. The technical limitations also extend to the set of the rambling house, itself a character in the play that is only awkwardly realized on



Haunted house for a lost generation: Brad Fraser's *Snake in Fridge*

the small stage.

Fortunately, the performers are able to vividly connect with their characters, helping provide the production with much of its momentum. Most vivid of all is Elijah Berlow as the drug-addled Corbett, who convincingly bounces off the walls with furies he is convinced are fueled by his small penis. Niki Yapo is excellent as Donna, a brain-damaged waif with a sweet demeanor that often disguises a surprisingly tart tongue. Tony Brakohiapa brings a steadying realism to Tony, the most level-headed of the roommates, and he deals with the play's racially charged moments with understated wryness.

There is also memorable work from Rachel Klyce as the land-

dy/pornographer, Paul D'Addario as a gigolo who wants to keep his own girlfriend pure, Kathleen Park as that quickly maturing girlfriend, Jennifer Welch as a nail-spitting exotic dancer, David Roger Darnell as a potentially creepy older roommate, and Christian Haines as a party-boy drug dealer.

Snake in Fridge is a play of considerable challenges, and if some are unmet in this production, enough are conquered to provide a solid taste of the queasily intriguing world of Brad Fraser. ▼

Snake in Fridge will run at Actors Theatre of San Francisco through Dec. 14. Tickets are \$25. Call 296-9179.

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Stage stars turn out for AIDS benefit

'Help Is on the Way for the Holidays' 2001

by Richard Dodds

Where else can you see Bonnie Raitt and Jo Anne Worley on the same stage? The third edition of *Help Is on the Way for the Holidays* is offering these two decidedly different personalities, as well as a dozen other attractions, on Dec. 3 at the Palace of Fine Arts Theater.

Presented by the Richmond/Ermet AIDS Foundation, the *Help Is on the Way* concerts — in both holiday and non-seasonal variations — have raised more than \$1 million since 1995 for AIDS service organizations in the Bay Area and Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS.

Bonnie Raitt, the bluesy singer with a trunkful of Grammys, will share her set with her father, John Raitt, the Broadway legend who



Jo Anne Worley will appear

created starring roles in *Carousel*, *The Pajama Game*, and other musicals.

Jo Anne Worley has spent most of the past three decades

working in regional theater, a career that continues to be fueled by her years on the original *Laugh-In* series. This is her first appearance in a *Help Is on the Way* production.

On the other hand, Jill Eikenberry and Michael Tucker, late of *L.A. Law* and now Bay Area residents, will make their fourth *Help Is on the Way* appearance. But the record is held by Lisa Vroman, Christine in the San Francisco production of *Phantom of the Opera*, who is back for her sixth concert.

Another star of the San Francisco *Phantom*, Franc D'Ambrosio, is also on the bill, along with local cabaret favorites Paula West and Samantha Samuels. The eclectic bill also includes TV actress Linda Purl, *Beach Blanket Babylon* regular Kenny Mazlow, lesbian folk singer Holly Near, the

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Chubby Czechers

Janacek's 'Jenufa' sparks SF Opera season

by Stephanie von Buchau

With the exception of *Samson et Dalila*, the current San Francisco Opera season has been abysmal, but all that changed in the blink of an eye two Mondays ago when *Jenufa* reentered the repertory after a 15-year absence. There has been a lot of loose talk about how new general director Pamela Rosenberg (who gets to drop the "new" after the announcement next week of her first planned season) was going to open our ears to the operas of Leos Janacek.

This is a tad annoying to anyone who has logged years in the local operatic galleys, since, except for *House of the Dead*, which Rosenberg has promised for beyond the 2005 season, the Bay Area has heard every one of Janacek's six viable operas — including *Cunning Little Vixen* and both parts of *Excursions of Mr. Broucek*, both conducted by Kent Nagano. SFO itself has offered multiple performances of *Makropoulos Case*, *Katya Kabanova* and *Jenufa*, first heard in the War Memorial in 1969. It was repeated in 1980 with Sena Jurinac as the finest Kostelnicka I've ever heard, and again in 1986 with Gabriela Benackova and Leonie Rysanek. (Their performance with Opera Orchestra of New York is available on Bis CDs.)

So anyone who claims that we

have missed Janacek is either a newcomer, being disingenuous, or has a faulty memory. Still, not even Benackova and Rysanek quite prepared one for the stunning dramatic and musical effect of this new production. And, even though she is absolved from most of SFO's missteps this season — though one can't help wishing she'd order Donald Runnicles to



Patricia Racette (left) as Jenufa, Kathryn Harries as Kostelnicka

run twice around the block on his opening nights, just to purge that extra adrenaline from his baton — Rosenberg can cheerfully take at least half the credit for this *Jenufa*'s success. Three of the four principals had to be replaced before opening night.

Lotfi Mansouri gets credit for hiring Francesca Zambello and Alison Chitty, who respectively directed and designed this thoroughly modern show; it is a sharply focused example of how to modernize a period melodrama without alienating the viewer from the work's humanistic, emotional core. Chitty's box-like sets and severe but beautiful color scheme, and Zambello's insistence that the actors sing to each other rather than to the audience, worked wonders. If only Zambello had been able to rein in the excessive histrionics of Kathryn Harries' Kostelnicka.

Power psyche

As it is, this production makes a powerful case for Janacek's musical inventiveness and psychological acuity. One was naturally disappointed (and puzzled) by the absence of Sir Charles Mackerras, who edited the score and conducted our last *Jenufa*. But Jiri Kout is no mean baton-wielder, and his Czech nationality was undoubtedly a plus in working with non-native singers. Kout may have overpowered his cast in the first act. I had trouble hearing the



Patricia Racette as Jenufa and Helga Dernesch as Grandmother Buryjovka in San Francisco Opera's production of *Jenufa*

women in their lower registers. I am convinced that something is seriously wrong with the acoustics downstairs; if they are not already doing so, conductors must go into the house during rehearsals to listen for balances. Yet Acts II and III, played without intermission, were better balanced and drove inexorably to the opera's cathartic conclusion.

Of the singers Rosenberg was forced to replace, British tenor Richard Berkeley Steele had the longest way to go. He apparently learned the role in three weeks at Rosenberg's request. Good for her. Good for him. He was vibrantly realistic as the jealous Laca, who grows to manhood when the woman he loves needs help. I cannot imagine Laca's antagonist Jay Hunter Morris singing the noble Walther von Stolzing, which he did earlier in the season; his feckless, oversexed Steva reminded me of Bubba.

For the Kostelnicka, the sex-toness who is a co-title character in Janacek's original (*Her Step-Daughter*), Rosenberg hired Harries to replace Elizabeth Connell, who left town voluntarily or not, depending on who's talking. Connell at best is a stolid singer, wasting our time as Elektra and Isolde. Though the Kostelnicka is guilty and repressed, she also burns with an inner flame. That's why Jurinac was so fabulous. Upright and rigid, her emotional tor-

ment poured out of her mouth and her burning eyes, not in the flailing arms and beetle-like scurrying that Harries thought necessary. (I kept wondering if she'd seen Rysanek, whose Kostelnicka was way over the top but hugely popular with those ultimate arbiters, the standees.)

Still, vocally Harries has plenty of inner fire, and she got better as the music rose in pitch. She was particularly well-matched with Patricia Racette, the third of Rosenberg's inspired replacements. Racette has done nothing finer here, which is high praise because everything she sings has integrity and commitment, even if she is sometimes miscast in Italian roles requiring a warmer soprano. Her complex village maiden was modest but passionate, well-mannered yet wild, downtrodden but heroic, always moving and sympathetic.

If Rosenberg continues to cast singers like Racette properly, instead of just using them as cannon fodder, and if she can consistently make lemonade out of the potentially embarrassing cancellations that opera is prone to, let the tea party begin. ▼

San Francisco Opera's production of *Jenufa* runs in repertory through December 9. Tickets (\$23-\$165), call (415) 864-3330.



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Inspired to sing folksongs

Countertenor Andreas Scholl, Orpheus Chamber Orchestra to play Davies

by Jason Serinus

As the Orpheus Chamber Orchestra begins its introduction to the title track of *Wayfaring Stranger*, Andreas Scholl's new recording of English, Welsh, Irish and American folksongs, one is immediately touched by the plaintive beauty of the accompaniment. Scholl's entry only deepens the feeling, his simplicity of utterance and sheer beauty of sound perfectly communicating the song's longing.

In a phone conversation held shortly before Scholl and the Orpheus Chamber Orchestra are to perform these folksongs in Davies Symphony Hall on Dec. 1, the 34-year old countertenor explained that the inspiration for his folksong project came when he, a long-time jazz fan, encountered a disc titled *The Art of Song*, on which famed jazz bassist Charlie Haden sings "The Wayfaring Stranger."

"I was looking for my own 21st-century way to perform these folksongs," Scholl explained. "I had thought of using lute and harp, but that's not necessarily historically accurate. When I heard Charlie Haden perform his beautiful arrangement with string orchestra, I realized a disc combining songs with string chamber orchestra was a direction I could go in."

Scholl played Haden's recording to several key people at Decca, and asked whom they might recommend to do the arrangements. They immediately suggested Craig Leon, whose musical résumé includes producing albums for the Ramones and Blondie. Leon proposed some of his arrangements, which so impressed Scholl that they decided to work together.

When asked how people might best approach his performance, Scholl emphasized that "the most important thing is not me singing, but the beautiful folksongs. I'm the messenger, the one who transmits those words through his singing. I hope I do that well. But the best thing would be if people leave the concert and say, 'What beautiful music.' That's more important than saying, 'What a great voice,' or, 'How high he can sing!'"

Audiences cannot help but focus on Scholl's voice, however, because it is so beautiful and haunting. In fact, the voice is so special that Scholl never contemplated a career other than singing. He began singing alto in a boy's choir at age seven. After his voice broke, he "somehow managed to continue singing soprano" until the age of 16 or 17. Then his choirmaster said, "This voice sounds like a countertenor. It's something you should try." Inspired by the example of Alfred Deller, Scholl made the transition to professional countertenor without ever exploring his baritone range.

Passion plays

After six years of performing, the singer made his first recordings in 1989 for Harmonia Mundi. In addition to many recordings with conductor René Jacobs' ensemble, Scholl recorded the *Messiah* with William Christie, and Bach's *St. Matthew Passion* with Philippe Herreweghe. He even lent his voice to *The Three Countertenors*, a sometimes hilarious collaboration with



Andreas Scholl: plaintive beauty

Dominique Visse and Pascal Bertin that includes ensemble versions of "O Solo Mio," "Habenera," "Pleurez mes yeux," "Maria," and "My Way."

Six years ago, Scholl recorded his first recital CD of German baroque songs. He has since recorded five or six more recitals before changing to his current label, Decca.

When asked how his voice has changed over the years, the artist replied that it has matured, get-

ting fuller and richer. "My vocal flexibility has increased as my musical imagination has gotten stronger. The range hasn't increased, but the lower voice has gotten more solid."

Scholl emphasizes that "it's nothing sensational that a man should sing high. Expect the same amount of musical satisfaction from someone who fulfills the meaning of an aria as you do with any other voice type."

Scholl's future recording plans start with an album of his own pop compositions, which he has been writing since age 17. Then he'll record completely unknown Italian cantatas composed by "Handel's buddies" during the time Handel was in Rome. Next comes a collection of songs to the Virgin Mary from medieval times to the late Baroque. Down the road, he expects to record Handel's *Rodelinda* with Renée Fleming.

When asked about the importance of classical music at this time in history, Scholl became quite passionate. "Classical music reconnects you to your true self. Why are we human beings? Because we have a soul that expresses itself through creativity: through music, through painting, through sculpture, through events. This is our root, our creativity. It's what makes

us different. We can build beautiful buildings, paint beautiful paintings; these are things that animals can't do. It's what makes us human beings.

"This is our Divine Nature. It's what connects us with God as the Creator of the universe. It's this little spark of the Creator inside each of us. Art is supposed to connect the human soul and spirit with its divine, true nature. If we forget this, we have very difficult

times ahead."

Andreas Scholl and the Orpheus Chamber Orchestra perform traditional folksongs plus Bach's Brandenburg Concerto No. 5, a Telemann flute concerto, and Corelli's Christmas Concerto this Saturday night, December 1, 8 p.m. in Davies Symphony Hall, as part of the Great Performers Series. Tickets are available at (415) 864-6000 or www.sfsymphony.org. ▼

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'Crippled comic' emcees Castro club

by Mike Sher

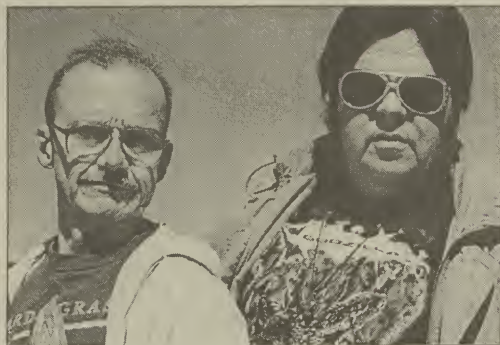
His walk to the corner of the Upper Market soul-food restaurant is labored, and his voice is slurred, but hang on — you're about to meet Bob Douglas, the self-described "Crippled Comic," the emcee of a new Castro Comedy Club. Fridays this fall at Art's Coffee Shop, on Church St., near Market, Douglas has shown how he's beaten the odds, and can not only live with cerebral palsy, but make light of it and make other people laugh about it.

For Douglas, born with cerebral palsy, it's a remarkable feat. With a condition that has many people struggling just to cope, he has passed the Bar Examination, practices worker's compensation law at the Law Offices of John E. Hill, and spends much of his spare time perfecting the art and craft of stand-up comedy. A lot of the rest of his time is devoted to his significant other, Jerry Thompson, a dedicated Elvis impersonator.

Born in upstate New York, Bob got his bachelor's degree in psychology from Syracuse University, and worked for a time with the federal government, encouraging the hiring of disabled minorities. He came out in New York about 30 years ago, and has been gay with a touch of bi. He started in comedy about 25 years ago as a hobby, and it led to performing, and now emceeing.

After a stint in Connecticut running three Subway sandwich stores, he moved to San Francisco. The weather and lifestyle were the draws. He got his degree from Golden Gate University in the '80s, and passed the Bar. Worker's comp and social security are his two main areas at the Law Offices of John E. Hill, a former colleague of the late Melvin Belli.

He performed around the Bay Area as the "Crippled Comic," but he wanted something more stable.



Comic Bob Douglas (left) with Elvis impersonator Jerry Thompson

St. Francis Lutheran Church, which he and Jerry regularly attend, put him in touch with Art's Coffee Shop, and that's where he holds forth.

Art's, run by Asians, is one of San Francisco's few soul-food restaurants. Walk into the smallish area in back, and you'll see a countrified look, with checkered tablecloths and hanging plants. Besides comedy, you'll find collard greens, smothered steak, and catfish on the menu, and chitterlings on the wall as a daily special.

Douglas is sitting at a table, organizing the show. Some comedians need to go on earlier — one's on her way to Brainwash. Some will play a little better later on the bill.

It's showtime

Bob Douglas goes on, and his voice is strong. He's done 15 jury trials, and there's a very fine line, as we all know, between presenting a case in court and performing. It's his job to warm up the audience and provide a bridge between comics.

His jokes are topical and general, not especially gay. "Want to make some money in Las Vegas? [Beat.] Invest in casino stocks!" The comedians run the gamut —

cross-dressed, gay, bi, straight. You never know where they'll turn up next. He's got a full house — other comedians brought some friends. Besides the comedy, Jerry's going to do an Elvis number or two. Part of the money collected goes to St. Vincent de Paul, so it's in a good cause. Admission is sliding scale.

Douglas has played the circuit. He's been at Holy City Zoo and Josie's, the Comedy Store in La Jolla, and Imperial Palace in Vegas. Only time he got booed was in an Oakland gay club, where the heckler thought he wasn't speaking clearly enough. He wants to keep working as an attorney, but would like to be a lounge act in Reno some day.

And why not? Who'd think that Bob Douglas would wind up, a practicing lawyer and the emcee at the Castro Comedy Club? For a laugh and a look at a courageous "crippled comic," you should come on down. ▼

Castro Comedy Club starts again on Jan. 9, 8 p.m., at Art's Coffee Shop, 138 Church St. Sliding scale admission. Call (415) 951-2448.

Peters principle

Orpheum offerings pay off

by Richard Dodds

Bernadette Peters' voice is not a thing of typical beauty. There is a recurring rasp in her mid-range, while her low notes are almost comically achieved. And it takes a concerted effort when it comes time to land a big note in an upper register. Yet, almost miraculously, this quirky sound can have a big payoff.

That Peters must work for her results increases our appreciation for her efforts, and our involvement also increases with her obvious attention to the thoughts behind the songs' lyrics. And then there is the intriguing contrast between the image of the diminutive entertainer with her mop of curls, pear-shaped tush, and giggly demeanor, and the depth of feeling she is able to bring to her selections.

Peters was in town last week, introducing a new concert act at the Orpheum Theatre, and if the overall results were more likable than glistening, the pleasure of

her company cannot be denied. With kick-off-her-shoes informality, Peters offered two acts of eclectic material that added several new selections to her standard repertoire.

She opened the show with a couple of songs from her recent Broadway turn in *Annie Get Your Gun*, and the second act began with three selections from her upcoming CD of Rodgers and Hammerstein songs. Both sequences emphasized her playful side, as she donned a floppy hat and toted a rifle for "You Can't Get a Man with a Gun," and then sold "There Is Nothin' Like a Dame" as if she were Marilyn Monroe at JFK's birthday party.

Playfulness becomes this performer, yet she remains best at finding her way inside songs that offer emotional challenges. While Andrew Lloyd Webber and Jerry Herman were represented with superior examples in this category, Stephen Sondheim provided the show with its dramatic power. Her version of "Children Will Listen" rang with unusual emotional



Bernadette Peters: playful

clarity, and she brought new interest to the well-trodden lyrics of "Being Alive."

Peters offered up a tip of the hat to her surroundings with "I Left My Heart in San Francisco," as well as hiring several local singers with credits in the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus. Their amiable contributions added to the loose and friendly atmosphere that this different kind of diva is able to so easily create. ▼

THEATRE

Puppetry with a twist

Basil Twist's 'Araneidae Show' comes to the Noh Space

by Richard Dodds

Basil Twist was in a wetsuit the last time he took a bow in San Francisco. Twist was the creator and one of five puppeteers who manipulated various everyday objects through a 100-gallon tank of water to create an abstract phantasmagoria in *Symphonie Fantastique*. But Twist will be traveling light, solo, and dry when he returns to his hometown for a four-performance run at the Noh Space on Dec. 6.

"In some ways, it's a much more traditional puppet show," Twist said of *The Araneidae Show*. "There are figurative puppets in it, and it's on a puppet stage. But it's still different from most puppet shows you've ever seen."

That shouldn't be surprising, since Twist has been heralded for nearly a decade for his adventurous reimagining of puppetry. *The Araneidae Show*, in fact, became his breakthrough production when he first performed it in 1993.

"It was quite well-regarded in the puppetry world," Twist said. "It was a big thing for me, and I thought it couldn't get any better than that. But then came *Symphonie Fantastique*, which went beyond the puppetry world to a lot of other kinds of audiences."

But after *Symphonie Fantastique* in 1999 and the recent *Petrushka* at Lincoln Center that required nine puppeteers, Twist wanted to reconnect to his simpler, earlier days. "Those were very satisfying experiences, but very different from what I used to do," he said. "I just got thirsty for doing that again."

The Araneidae Show takes its name from the kind of spider that weaves circular webs. "I sort of have this thing for spiders," Twist said. "There are spiders throughout the show."

There are also, according to the press release, "an extravaganza of showgirls, lonely streets, cats, deconstructing theaters, sex, despair, magic, metamorphosis, and the fragile web of illusion sometimes called reality."

"It's very hard to describe this show," Twist said, acknowledging that it "absolutely, definitely" reflects his gay sensibilities. "It's based on a real experience of mine, but it's like a surreal non-linear interpretation of it. If I could describe it, I probably wouldn't have made a puppet show."

The Araneidae Show, which runs just over 30 minutes, will be preceded by two shorter pieces: *Angel's Tarantella* features an angel puppet, and *Stickman* uses a simple marionette that becomes unusually evocative in Twist's hands.

Next up for Twist is a return New York engagement of *Peter and Wendy*, the acclaimed Mabou Mines production that traveled to Berkeley Rep in 1998. And he's still working on an elaborate show with Mabou Mines involving a wind machine.

"I work a lot," he said, "but I'm not a wealthy person at all. I actually need more money."

It is the nature of Twist's art that it can only grow so much before it changes into something else entirely. "Yes," he agreed, "and



Puppet master Twist with creations: 'I sort of have this thing for spiders.'

it's definitely a financial restriction on how you work, because I also tend to do elaborate shows. *The Araneidae Show* is elaborate in its own miniature way."

For ticket information call 621-7978.

Seasoned greetings

This being San Francisco, theatrical holiday fare is not limited to kids' stuff—even if Karen Carpenter and Joan Crawford are giving us a pass this year. Here are some of the local holiday attractions that add a little kick to the eggnog, and that may not be suitable for audiences of all ages.

That's the case with *Hotel Bethlehem*, an adults-only comedy by

Tom W. Kelly and Tim Bryant that takes a twisted look at events surrounding the night of Jesus' birth. Kelly, a San Francisco playwright and occasional theater critic for the *Bay Times*, and Los Angeles writer Bryant stir up Bible stories from both Testaments and add some of their own ingredients, including a hunky centurion, twin tarts of Sodom, and a myopic angel.

Hotel Bethlehem is running Nov. 29-Dec. 15 at Exit on Taylor. Mike Ward is directing the Isis Arts Collective production. Call 863-7707 for tickets.

Another *Wrapping Paper Caper* is the work of innovative lesbian puppeteer Liebe Wetzel, who looked at a sexually abusive pastor in an earlier work, but who has created the current show for all audiences. Wetzel and members of her Lunatique Fantastique company will use holiday remnants to create a detective story that begins with a trail of Styrofoam packing peanuts.

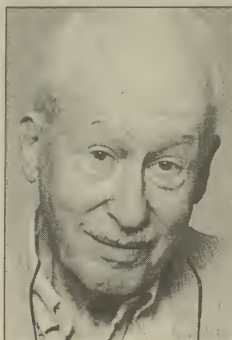
The new show, running Dec. 1-Jan. 5 at the Zeum in Yerba Buena Gardens, is a sequel of sorts to last year's well-received *Wrapping Paper Caper*. Call 820-3359 for tickets.

The Brits are mad for their holiday pantomimes, which are not of the Marcel Marceau variety but broadly realized versions of popular tales. The San Francisco Shakespeare Festival and American Citizens' Theatre have joined forces to create a panto-style version of *Cinderella* that mixes topical humor, local celebrities, audience participation, crossdressing, and innuendoes into the fairy-tale

story.

Cinderella is running Nov. 30-Dec. 22 at the Gershwin Theatre on the University of San Francisco campus. Call 392-4400 for tickets.

Those seeking a more traditional holiday treat might look to Theatre Rhinoceros, where, for the 20th year, Robert Coffman will read Truman Capote's *A Christmas Memory*. This year's reading takes place Dec. 10, and will be followed by a wine-and-cheese reception. Call 861-5079 for tickets.



Robert Coffman reads Capote.

Talking with Tomlin

Lily Tomlin, who's been extended through Dec. 31 at Theatre on the Square, will make a one-night foray to another theater on Dec. 10. Tomlin will be interviewed onstage at the New Conservatory Theatre Center by novelist Jewelle Gomez, and then take questions from the audience.

Tickets are a pricey \$100 and \$150, but do benefit NCTC's YouthAware Educational Theatre Program, and also include a post-performance reception with Tomlin and Gomez. Advance purchase is required; call 861-8972. ▼

Richard Dodds can be reached BARstage@aol.com.

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Medicine man

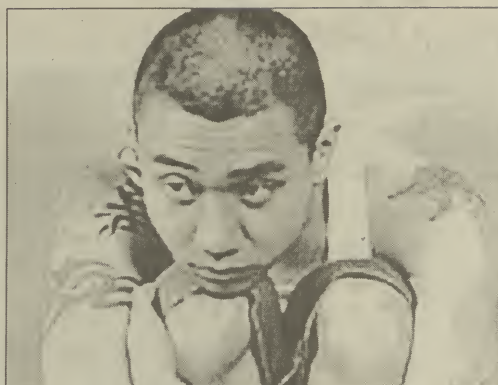
by Jim Nawrocki

Harmless Medicine by Justin Chin; Manic D Press, \$13.95

Justin Chin is one of the more prolific young gay writers to come out of San Francisco in recent years. *Harmless Medicine*, his current collection of poetry, is his second. His first, *Bite Hard*, was published by Manic D Press in 1997. Another book, *Mongrel: Essays, Diatribes, Pranks*, was published by St. Martin's Press in 1998. Chin's fiction and poetry seem to pop up in literary magazines everywhere, and he has been anthologized several times. He writes frequently about gay and racial issues and living with HIV. He is also not afraid to tackle themes of sexuality, and he does so with a frankness that does not come off as exploitative.

Chin gained a kind of notorious fame in San Francisco in the '90s for his memorable, almost theatrical performances of his work. Much of his verse seems to fall into the category of "slam poetry"—rhythmic and rap-like, it is written more to be performed than read, and *Harmless Medicine* contains many pieces that remind us of Chin's gift for performance. There are long poems in the collection, built around refrains and line structures that almost beg to be chanted.

One of the dominant themes of the collection is Chin's awareness, perhaps even self-consciousness, as an Asian immigrant living in America. Chin seems eager to exorcise the crises and contradictions that come with being not only Asian, but gay and HIV-positive. In the poem "Poison," for example, Chin recalls being a young boy and witnessing his father use traditional Asian medicine to treat a man's scorpion bite. The poem is not only the poet's recog-



San Francisco poet, essayist, and fiction writer Justin Chin

nition of his cultural heritage but a response to the reality of life with HIV. In the short poem "Smell," Chin confronts the sense of cultural displacement and generational conflict that results from immigration, particularly in the Asian community. His grandmother, washing his clothes, remarks to his mother that they "smell so funny," that "it is the smell of the West."

American dreams

In one of the longer poems in the collection, "Imagining America," Chin confronts the somewhat schizophrenic, contradictory nature with which immigrants invariably regard the America they come to. The poem is structured in several parts. It begins in anger, with a denigration of the often patronizing attitude that Westerners can have for the East: "Go ahead and plumb the Third World for your sense of spirituality/ your fuck-me-all Godhead fix, rest easy in your futon feeling that/ you're making an affirmative gesture./ If you can't afford the sex tour, join the Peace Corps." As the poem develops, it becomes a more meditative deconstruction of the American Dream, at once a sort of mockery and homage to the American culture and way of life. "I'm imagining America," he concludes. "I'm fumbling to make this mine."

For all the seriousness of many of the issues that Chin deals with, there's also a fair amount of satire and humor in *Harmless Medicine*. "No Won-Tons for Whitey" is a funny little jab built around a clever culinary metaphor: "The

special's not for you/ The brown rice much too white/ The soy sauce much too salty/ The noodles was too cheap." Similarly, "Beefy Fag" is a short, rhymed send-up of gay stereotypes that bitingly drops brand names like "Geo Tracker" and "Starbucks" and levels its scorn at those who "work on our pecs at least 8 times a day."

Chin seems to have an affinity for list poems. "Animal Species I Have Eaten" and "Contents Page to the Book of Poems I Have Yet to Write" are two fun examples. There's a similar playfulness to poems like "Mistranslations," which pokes fun at the absurdities of cultural guidebooks, and "Sur-realist Bookmark," a charming little poem in the absurdist tradition. But this playfulness can have a darker edge, too, which surfaces in many of the poems, such as the title piece, "Harmless Medicine," which explores the fears and the strange sense of body consciousness that can permeate the life of one living with HIV. In terms of form, the poem is varied and at times whimsical. But it is grounded in a much more pensive foundation: "There's a trick I'm teaching my body to do/ to not mind the aches, the flu-like symptoms/ the slow brakes and creaking joints/ to ignore the nausea and the deathly fatigue."

As the title of the book suggests, images of disease and remedy appear in the poems of *Harmless Medicine* again and again. The "medicine" that Chin offers up here is sometimes fun, often disturbing, and always interesting and memorable. ▼

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Help is On Way

◀ page 31

a cappella quintet Street Sounds, the San Francisco Ice Dance Company, and the Barbary Coast Cloggers. (The line-up is subject to change and, in the past, often has.)

Tickets to the 7:30 p.m. performance range from \$35 to \$75. Those who spring for patron tickets starting at \$100 can join the cast for a post-performance dessert and wine party. A silent auction will precede the performance, with a variety of donated items that includes artwork, dinners, wine, gift baskets, and autographed celebrity memorabilia.

The Richmond/Ermet AIDS Foundation was founded by Barbara Richmond and the late Peggy Ermet, friends who both lost their sons to AIDS. The foundation distributes the proceeds from its activities to a changing



Phantom star Franc D'Ambrosio

roster of agencies, and this year's beneficiaries are the Pediatric HIV/AIDS Program at Children's Hospital Oakland, the HIV Education Program at New Conservatory Theatre Center, and BAY (Bay Area Young) Positives.

For more information on the Richmond/Ermet Foundation, go to www.helpisontheway.org. For tickets to *Help Is on the Way for the Holidays III*, call 273-1620. ▼

BOOKS

More adventures in Naughtyland

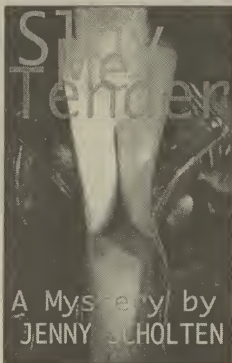
It's a living for day stripper Aubrey Lyle

by Deborah Peifer

In her first Aubrey Lyle mystery, *Day Stripper*, Jenny Scholten gave us an intriguing puzzle solved by an entirely credible amateur detective who argued with conviction that life as a stripper was not ugly and tawdry but empowering and free. The second of the series, *Slay Me Tender* (New Victoria, \$11.95), is less a mystery than a slice of life, and the life from which this slice is extracted is sordid and mean. Aubrey's eyes are finally opened, and she sees her world as others see it.

Aubrey works at Naughtyland, a San Francisco club where the dancers have to pay to perform, and where lap-dancing constitutes the bulk of their earnings. Each week, their boss, Mose Junior, imports a porn star to attract the jaded customers, but the current feature, Plushious Velvett, offended by the accommodations and the clientele, storms out before her week is up, and vanishes. When Aubrey finds a gun hidden in Plushious' apartment, she's convinced that foul play is behind the disappearance, and equally certain that the police will have little interest in searching for a missing sex worker. Aubrey decides that she has to play the sleuth again, but with less than stellar results.

The plot of *Slay Me Tender*, although interesting, serves primarily as a frame for Aubrey to explore her life as a stripper, and what it means to earn her living at the hands of the sleazy denizens of Naughtyland. Her painful admissions of just how bloody awful the life is are moving and honestly arrived at. Aubrey is still a stripper at the end of this novel, but performing has become considerably less appealing now that she has removed her blinders and seen the work for what it is. Scholten creates extraordinarily interesting characters, minor and major, and paints the Tenderloin experience with a vivid and believable brush.

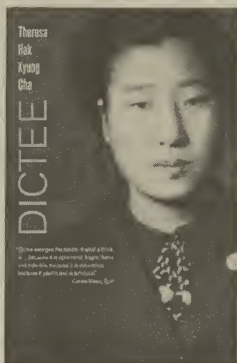


Slay Me Tender is a sad, fascinating and always entertaining walk on the wild side.

Art-book shopping list

The winter gift-giving season is upon us, and in my continuing effort to be helpful, I offer some suggestions for presents that will enthrall your friends and impress them with your good taste and erudition. Thanks be to the University of California Press for publishing art books not only suitable for adorning the well-dressed coffee table, but also substantive enough to make them worth reading.

Theresa Hak Kyung Cha (1951-1982) was an artist and writer whose tragically short life truncated a promising career. As Constance M. Lewallen explains in *The Dream of the Audience* (\$40), "by the time of her untimely and tragic death in 1982, she had created an extraordinarily rich and complex body of work that reflected the profound developments of her time and place — including the radical changes in art — and her own cultural displacement and alienation." A touring exhibition of her art, at UC Berkeley through December 16, offers an opportunity to see the range and depth of her artistry. The book, published in conjunction with the exhibition,



provides potent examples of her work. The three extraordinary essays included in the text serve to place her work in the context of her life and times.

Cha's best known work, *Dictee* (\$15.95), originally published just days after she was murdered by a stranger, has been reissued as part of this important retrospective on her work. When a visual artist writes a book of any kind, but especially, I think, an autobiography, the composition of that book, the typefaces used, the way words are placed on the page, the illustrations chosen, all serve to create a work of art that is more than mere text. Together, these two books serve to illuminate the all-too-brief life of an astonishing artist.



In 1994, a group of curators at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art came together to discuss an exhibition that would explore the great richness and diversity of California art in the 20th century. "Made in California: Art, Image, and Identity, 1900-2000" would not be a traditional art historical survey, nor would it attempt to establish a new canon or identify certain types of artistic production as distinctively 'Californian.' Rather, it would investigate the relationship of art to the image of California and to the region's social and political history." That's what Stephanie Barron promises in her extraordinarily interesting introduction to the companion volume to the exhibit, and that is what this book (by Stephanie Barron, Sheri Bernstein, Ilene Susan Fort; \$34.95) delivers. Rich, lush, sumptuously illustrated, each section investigates the who, what, and sometimes why of California,



and just how we got to be this way. *Made in California* is the ideal gift for newcomers and natives as well, one that entertains as it informs.

If you want even more words to explain that thing we are, *Reading California: Art, Image, and Identity, 1900-2000* (edited by Barron, Bernstein, Fort, \$24.95) provides a collection of essays by art historians and scholars in the humanities. Taken together, these U. of Calif. Press books remind us that California is more than just the movie business, although that aspect is explored with skill and wit. No Californian should be without the richness of *Made in California*. ▼

If you have gossip, inquiries or information of a literary nature, send them to DeborahPeifer@msn.com, or via snail mail to the B.A.R.

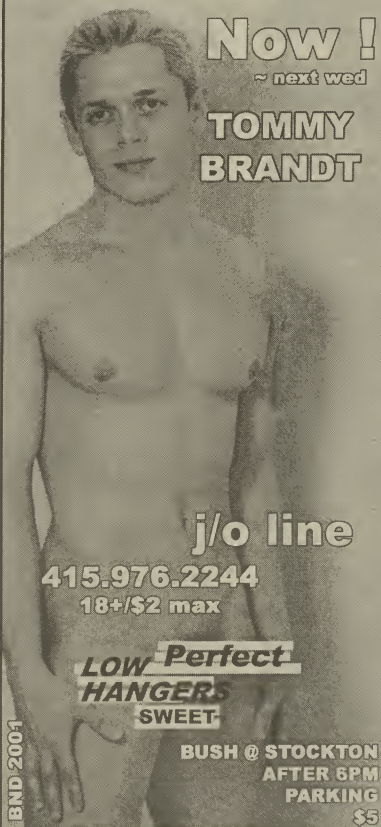


Book Report

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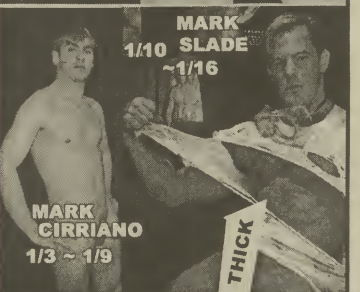
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Date set for Mr. SFL '02

Contestants set sights on March 9

by Mister Marcus

For the 24th year in a row, seasoned judges will choose San Francisco's entry in the International Mr. Leather competition in Chicago here on Friday, March 9. This is an open call for dedicated leather men to go for the gold in capturing the Mr. San Francisco Leather 2002 title.

The Mr. SFL 2002 contest committee has already been meeting. Last week, Jerry Roberts was elected president of the committee, Paul Lester, vice president, Dennis Silva, treasurer and Tim Wong, secretary. The committee met to select the theme and judges for the event, and to hash out all the contest details. The big event will take place for the last time at Club Townsend, on Friday March 9, 2002. Ticket prices have not yet been set.

The meet-and-greet site for contestants and judges will take place on Friday, March 1, and the pre-judging interviews will take place on Sunday, March 3. Several bars and businesses are expected to field contestants, so expect to see their preliminaries held in January and February 2002, leading up to the big city-wide contest.

First out of the gate as a contender is Mr. Hayes Valley Leather Michael Schaefer, who will represent that bar in the competition.

The entry fee is only \$25, in case you'd like to enter as an independent. The field is wide open. Now is the time to consider making a commitment to serve the community with San Francisco's most coveted leather title.

DC doings

There was a mammoth celebration in Washington, DC all last weekend as one of the longest running leather bars, the DC Eagle, celebrated its 30th anniversary with a mind-boggling three-day extravaganza. IML Stefan Mueller flew in from Stuttgart to be by his first runner-up at the stepping down.

A lot was happening, beginning with "blackout night" on



A dynasty of Mr. SF Leathers. Standing (from left): Gary Virginia, 1996; Ray Tilton, 1990; and Lenny Broberg, 1992. Kneeling: Lance Gear, 2000; and Houston Davenport, 2001. Who will join this family in 2002? We'll all find out next March 9.

Thursday, a big boner-ama. There was a sit-down dinner at the new Hamburger Mary's for 100 "invited" guests (not including some miffed "pillars of the community"), and 30th anniversary pins were given out to the loyal. Sterling-silver medallions went to all the former Mr. DC Eagles and the DC Eagle staff.

Jim McGlade, owner of DC's Leather Rack, gave a moving tribute to former Eagle owner Dick McHugh and former Leather Rack owner Richard Cogan. Not a dry eye was seen in the house.

On Saturday night, the Mr. DC Eagle 2002 contest was staged, with Ken Snowden doing the MC honors. When all the votes were tallied, Herb Kaylor emerged as

the winner, with Jason Hendricks the 1st runner-up. Darrell Moyers' stepping aside speech was a mere 12 minutes but a heartfelt and thankful one. Mr. Kaylor will compete for IML next May in Chicago.

Canadian bacon

In Toronto, a record crowd descended on The Docks for the Mr. Leatherman Toronto competition, with nine Canadians vying for the title vacated by Peter Theodoropoulos. Package holders enjoyed 14 official events in eight venues over the five-day extravaganza, which included a huge Victory Ball after the contest.

Frank Nowicki and popular diva Crystal Lite hosted the contest, and the entertainment lineup included Mark Cassius. The whole show was under the direc-

next page ►

EVENTURES IN LEATHER

Sunday, December 2

Constantines MC beer/soda bust at the Lone Star Saloon, from 1600 to 2000, for only \$7. They say it's a no-frills beer bust.

Forum of SF annual Christmas party at Harvey's SoMa, by invitation or club colors/overlay, from 1800 'til you drop.

Threshold Society, Inc., in Los Angeles has a Bizarre Bazaar from noon to 200 at Nob Hill (8229 Van Nuys Blvd. In Panorama City) with artisans and vendors well stocked with gift ideas. \$10 at the door. Info: www.threshold.org/bb.

Thursday, December 6

Final Big Basket contest of the year at The Edge tonight with a beer/soda bust. Danny Williams hosts with big holiday logs.

Saturday, December 8

In Hayward, the ACLC's annual "Santa's Slave Auction" happens at the Turf Club (where else?), from 1800-2200, with Lenny Broberg the MC and Jeff Tucker the auctioneer. A benefit for SHAME (Shelter Against Violent Environments).

Omar Moseley and Don "Ho" Tse host their annual Christmas party, entitled "Eruption," at 407 Sanchez. They ask a \$20 donation to benefit AEF & BCEF. It all takes place in booth, er, apartment #3140. To RSVP call 558-4160.

Mr. Leather New York Eagle 2002 at the bar tonight in Manhattan. Vern Stewart will MC the event, which is their first biggie in their new location.

Sunday, December 9

Annual "Holiday Leather Brunch" at Harvey's-SoMa at 12th & Folsom, from 1200 to 1500. The raffles include a RT ticket for two on American airlines to anywhere in the US or Puerto Rico; a DVD player; and dinner for two at Zuni's. Don't miss this one!

Mon. & Tues., December 10 & 11

Leather empress Donna Sachet's "Songs of the Season" show happens at the Plush Room of the Hotel York, at 2000 both nights. It's always a sold-out event.

Wednesday, December 12

Golden Shower Buddies let it all flow out tonight, with doors open 2100-2300. A swimming season, indeed! Call 777-HEAD for details.

Wednesday, December 26

Leather Buddies swagger butchly around 933 Harrison tonight. Strict dress code, leather, latex, uniforms, dirty jocks, raunchy acts. No cologne! No sneakers! For info, call 777-HEAD.

POLKSTRASSE

It's just gossip!

by Sweet Lips

As a well-seasoned bartender, I know good cocktail-lounge gossip when I hear it, and I'm always happy to pass it along for whatever it's worth to anyone willing to lend an ear. Well, I got an earful about my last column, in which I speculated that the N Touch bar on Polk Street might close after losing its lease. It turns out the club hasn't lost its lease at all. That was just another one of those rampant rumors that make their way up and down Polk Gulch. So listen up, girls and boys: the N Touch is still in business and plans to stay that way, with the same great staff, customers, entertainment and so on. So pop on in there and tell club manager Ron Rios I send my regards and best wishes for continued success, and give everyone at N Touch my blessings.

Meanwhile, back at the ranch — I mean, back at Club Rendez-Vous — it's birthday time again for Yours Truly. Come help me celebrate my 79th on Saturday, December 1, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. I promise to be nice, and Dennis Tyler will be catering the affair, so you won't go away hungry. You are all cordially invited. This isn't just gossip; I can confirm the facts in this case — I still have my birth certificate on parchment!

If you come to my birthday party expecting live rock 'n' roll, honey, you're ducking in the wrong bar. You need to head on over to Polk Street's legendary Kimo's, which has been around since Creation (so it's rumored).

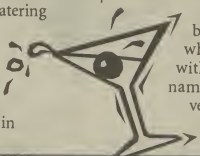
Yes, Tyler is still managing

Kimo's, and doing a great job, especially with the live bands upstairs. Sometimes the bands are in drag, sometimes they look like alley cats dragged in off the street, sometimes they wear practically

nothing — that's when I like them best! But I do wonder where he finds bands with such disturbing names. On Friday, November 30 starting at 9 p.m., Kimo's has

booked bands called Dig That Body Up It's Alive, Creation Is Crucifixion, Kalibas, and Elephant Man. Yikes! Whatever happened to proper band names, like The Righteous Brothers, The Teddy Bears, and The Beach Boys?

I'll be leaving on the 3rd for a week of R&R in sunny Puerto Valarta. See you when I get back! ▼



Cocktail Hour

Black Film Fest

◀ Arts cover

tion at 6 p.m. on Friday, November 30, includes the films *A Different Kind of Black Man*, *Kiss and Say Goodbye* and *A Luv Tale*.

World AIDS Day on Saturday, December 1, will be marked by screenings of 23 international films, including *Gay Cuba*, *Odo Ya! Life with AIDS* (Brazil), *Shouting Silent* (South Africa), and *Woubi Cheri* (Africa's Ivory Coast). Congresswoman and AIDS activist Barbara Lee is the Honorary Chairperson for World AIDS Day. Following the 2:30 p.m. screenings of *The Naked Truth* and *Shouting Silent*, Lee will participate in a 4:30 p.m. panel discussion on HIV/AIDS in the African-American community.

The panel "Gay Sexuality in the Hip Hop Culture" (Dec. 1, 5 p.m.) will address homophobia in hip hop music and videos.

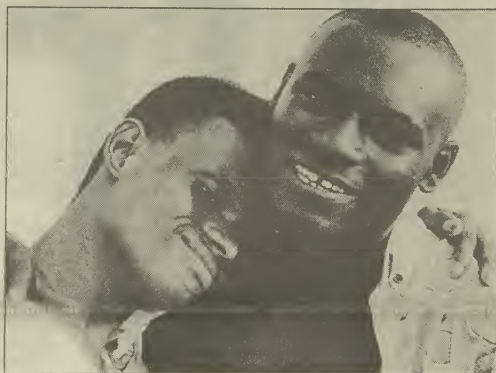
Dramas and documentaries round out the festival on Sunday, December 2, with director Theresa Martin on hand for the closing-night film *The Right Girl* (6 p.m.), described as "a Cyrano de Bergerac tale with an African American twist."

Sneak previews

A small sampling of the festival's offerings provides a sense of the film festival's range, in subjects and quality.

Our Father (12/2) is a sensitive and well-acted dramatic film about two black brothers who discover their father's secret life after his death. Although the film ends just as its dramatic conflict is about to be resolved, it provides a moving exploration of black masculinity.

A Luv Tale (11/30) is purportedly a comedy of lesbian romance



Woubi Cheri is a gay film from the Ivory Coast, screening on Saturday.

between a magazine publisher and a sultry photographer. Those who are starved for any film on a lesbian theme may be able to overlook the film's flat script, snail's-pace direction, and amateurish performances.

Sylvester: Mighty Real (12/1) is a 10-minute excerpt of a documentary work-in-progress by director Tim Smyth. The bold spirit of the disco-era, genderbending pioneer Sylvester (he even in-

spired Ru Paul), is alive and well in this film, which is also a perfect curtain-raiser for:

Divas: Love Me Forever (12/1) explores the lives, careers and dreams of six black female impersonators from Toronto. This entertaining and insightful documentary not only provides an in-depth look at drag culture, but at gay culture as well. The articulate performers make some profound observations on everything from the circuit-party scene (where the huge audience is too stoned to remember their performance) to the discrimination they encounter from other elements of the gay community. You go, girls!

Dakan (12/2) is the first sub-Saharan African film to take male homosexuality as its subject. Manga and Sori are men who have been in love since they were schoolboys. ▼



Disco diva Sylvester

For complete program information, visit www.blacklgbtff.org.

Mister Marcus

◀ previous page

tion of the talented David Adkin and Jeff Prentice. All the former Mr. Leather Fellowship winners were actually onstage together for the first time.

When all was said and done, Bill Dearsley (representing The Barn) emerged as the winner, with Bob Watkins (Mr. Black Eagle 2002) the first runner-up. The second runner-up was Dino Bertucci (Mr. Leather Zelda's).

David Forget was named Mr.

Leather Fellowship, and succeeds Remi Colette, last year's winner.

High accolades came from all quarters for this year's presentation.

David Adkin assumes the position of Executive Producer for next year.

Northwest scene

In Seattle, the Seattle Men in Leather group staged their 13th annual Seattle Daddy and Daddy's Boy contests at the Cuff on Saturday night to a packed audience. Two men vied for the daddy spot, and three men aimed for the boy slot. It

was a benefit for Lambert House GLBT Center. The contest started at 2030 and ended at 2130, and the crowd loved it. When all the scores were tallied, Shane Jepsen was named Seattle Leather Daddy 2002, and Kirk Mason won the Seattle Daddy's Boy 2002 title. All is well in Seattle's leather community.

There's more headed your way in December, January and February, so get geared up for a holiday season with lots of seasonal parties, gatherings and fundraisers. For news from leather scribes worldwide, click on www.LeatherPage.com. ▼

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OUT & ABOUT

Calendare

by Mark Mardon

Hot at Sims

In the not-too-distant past, the Jon Sims Center for the Arts was a sleepy place. It livened up mainly when the principal residents — the Gay and Lesbian Freedom Band, Cheer SF, and City Swing — roused themselves for rehearsals and performances. Otherwise the spacious rooms were mostly given over to echoes from Mission Street.

Not so these days. Ever since Charles Wilmoth showed up as Director — and maybe it's coincidence — the place has been hopping, drowning out the traffic noise. So many people are involved in so many projects, it's hard to keep track of all their doings. The JSC has become a hive of queer activity in the Mission/SoMa borderland.

Take, for instance, "SFinX: San Francisco in Exile Live at the Jon Sims Center," a phenomenon of alternative culture. This Saturday, December 1 at 8 p.m., the SFinX gang present "Glitter Maggots and Queer Dragonflies: Performing Entomology," an audio excursion and poetic jaunt into the intricate universe of insects.

The audio-excursion portion of the event features sound designer and purveyor of odd noises Elise Baldwin; Jen Gandy of Flatcracker performing Drag Country; and Chad, creator of the SF King Calendar, with Whitney Skilcorn (aka WFS2K02 of Infinite X's and Fighter D), inducing the audience to laugh via a nonsensical yet skillful musical caper into creatures and pests.

Five readers comprise the "Poetic Musings" portion of the evening: Julia Block, a master of semantics and witty wordplay; the duo Amelia Hess and Rebecca Weiner; poet and queer activist/organizer Sara Moore; and Poppy, pop star and princess-pirate, ninja and fire-pixie.

Admission to the SFinX happening is \$5-\$10 sliding. The craziness starts at 8 p.m. The recorded proceedings will be downloaded to sfinxlive.org.

Unlike anything else at JSC is the show coming up this Sunday, December 2 at 7 p.m. and 9 p.m.: "Dr. Frockrocket's Vivifying (Re-Ani-matronix) Menagerie and Medicine Show," a cabaret-style rock musical featuring blazing-hot artists in the fields of indie music, 'zines, spoken word and performance. Dr. Frockrocket, played by Jody Bleyle (Team Dresch; Infinite X's) is the show's narrator and "self-declared healer" who presents "a circus of humans to the audience as curiosities."

The power performers include Tara Jepson (SF filmmaker/performance artist); Ms. Magazine Woman of the Year Nomy Lamm; actor/bassist Beth Stinson; AIDS activist and dominatrix Spider; performance artist Bridget Irish; and author Beth Lisick. Each member of this "cast of curiosities" has written original compositions demonstrating the power of words and gesture to heal and transform. Seriously.

Tickets to "Dr. Frockrocket's" rock-circus healing and transformational therapy session are merely \$10. ▼

The Jon Sims Center is located at 1519 Mission St. Info: 554-0402; www.jonsimsctr.org

Fri

Grand Ballroom, Sheraton Palace Hotel
Gala event: "Circles of Hope 2001," a benefit for the Metropolitan Community Foundation, honoring Rev. Cecil Williams and Janice Mirikitani, friends of the GLBT community for decades through their work at Glide Memorial United Methodist Church in SF. Featuring live entertainment by the SF Gay Men's Chorus. Silent auction. The Metropolitan Community Foundation, located in the Castro, supports social justice programs to meet the needs of the most vulnerable in our community. \$125 single ticket. Sponsorship packages available. 6-10pm. 2 New Montgomery St. (at Market). Tix: 863-4436.

Luna Sea Theater

In celebration of their 8th year, Luna Sea presents a selection of plays and performance pieces. From the "DykeDrama Festival": *This Is My Roommate* by Kim Compoc, and *TomBoy* by Karen Lubisch. From "Uprising... Rising UP!!!!": *Harriet Tubman Visits a Therapist* by Carolyn Gage, starring Yolanda S. Vierra Allen and Pam Dun. From "On A Butch Tip": B.C. Cliver. From Luna Sea's Artist in Residence program: *EveryWoman HeartRhythms DrumChoir*. From "From the Heart": poet Karen X. \$10-\$15. 8pm. 2940 16th St. Tix: 863-2989.

Congregation Sherith Israel

"Finding Peace in the War on Drugs," a public forum presented by The Lindesmith Center-Drug Policy Foundation. Supervisor Gavin Newsom and SF health professionals will discuss the city's drug policies. As the country's leading drug-reform city, SF has created model harm reduction programs for drug users, including office-based methadone services, and an overdose prevention pilot program. But how can SF improve? Free. 8pm. 2266 California St. (at Webster). Info: 921-4987; www.drugpolicy.org

Galería de la Raza

Opening party: "Xmas Pachanga & Art Sale," featuring live and silent auctions of fine art prints; live *Rock en Español* and Salsa DJs; a bountiful table of savory and sweet treats; open bar; cameo appearances by Los Super Amigos and Chiqui, the most famous costumed Chihuahua in the Mission. Free. 7-10pm. 2857 24th St. (at Bryant). Info: 826-8009.

Sat

National AIDS Memorial Grove

"World AIDS Day Ceremony & Award Presentation," with Reverend Ron Swisher; Gary Pike, Board Co-Chair, National AIDS Memorial Grove; Michael Helquist, Board Member; Linda Tillery and the Cultural Heritage Choir; and Jimmy Greenshields, 2001 National AIDS Memorial Grove Community Service Award Recipient for bringing comfort to those living with

and touched by HIV/AIDS by tirelessly cooking at the Coming Home Hospice for the past 14 years. 11am-1pm (program from 11:30am-noon). Golden Gate Park, corner of Bowling Green Dr. & Middle Dr. East. Info: 750-8340; www.aidsmemorial.org

St. Matthew's Lutheran Church

The Golden Gate Men's Chorus, directed by Joseph Jennings, presents its annual "Holiday Concert Series," bringing their unique blend of 50 voices to sacred and secular music of the season, drawn from diverse cultures and traditions. The GGMC is a member of the Gay and Lesbian Association of Chorus. \$15. 8pm. Also on Dec. 4, 11, & 16. 3281 16th St. (at Dolores). Tix/info: 668-GGMC; www.ggmc.org; A Different Light Bookstore.

ATA Gallery

Other Cinema presents the world premiere of Mark Boswell's "Nova-Kino 2001 Reporter," a one-person show in the tradition of Jean-Luc Godard, Dziga Vertov, Bruce Connor and Doris Wishman. Boswell appears in his alter ego persona as "Orville Nix, Jr." to hard-sell a product and a program that play fast and loose with political histo-

The Barbary Coast Cloggers' *Help Is On the Way* at Palace of Fine Arts Theater. See Monday.

Symphony's 9,000-pipe Ruffatti organ. \$12-\$40 (group rates available). 8pm. Van Ness at Grove. Tix/info: City Box Office, 392-4400; www.sfgirlschorus.org

ODC Theater

Kerstin Kussmaul and the Monday Travel Group present "Vexations," 18 consecutive hours of dance and music based on Erik Satie's "Vexations," consisting of a bass theme of 18 notes occupying 13 beats and two harmonizations, to be played 840 times. Featuring

six pianists and 14 dancers. The audience can come and go, watching the performance for any length. Props for dancers created on-site by experimental artist Eliot Lessing, executive director of BUILD Art Space and director of the Art Hut. \$10 before 2pm; \$12-\$18 after 2pm. 8am-2am. 3153 17th St. (at Shotwell). Tix/info: 863-9834; www.od-theater.org

Mon

Palace of Fine Arts Theater

Gala benefit concert: "Help is on the Way for the Holidays," a benefit for the Pediatric HIV/AIDS Program at Children's Hospital, Oakland, HIV Education Program at New Conservatory Theater Center, and BAY (Bay Area Young) Positives. Starring Grammy-Award winner Bonnie Raitt and father/actor John Raitt; men's folk-dance ensemble The Barbary Coast Cloggers; television and film stars Jill Eikenberry and Michael Tucker; comedian Jo Anne Worley; singers Linda Purl and Holly Near; *Phantom of the Opera* stars Lisa Vroman and Franc D'Ambrosio; Broadway star Brian Lane Green; jazz sensation Paula West; cabaret diva Samantha Samuels; acapella group Street Sounds; the SF Boys Chorus; and the SF Ice Dance Team. Directed by David Galigan, with Musical Director Bill Keck. \$35-\$50 and \$75 show only; \$100 to \$5,000

"Host Level" (incl. Champagne & Dessert Party with Cast). Silent auction at 6pm. Performances begin at 7:30pm. 3301 Lyon St. Tix/info: 273-1620; www.helpisontheway.org

Ira & Leonore S. Gershwin Theater

Opening night: The SF Shakespeare Festival with American CitiZeNs' Theater stages "Cinderella" in the wildly popular comic style of British Panto. A farcical, over-the-top alternative to the Nutcracker and A Christmas Carol. Directed by Allen McKelvey; music by Gunnar Madsen. Aimed primarily at children, Panto also includes jokes and innuendoes that keep adults entertained. 7:30pm. 2350 Turk Blvd. (at Masonic). Info: 422-2222; www.sfsakes.org

848 Community Space

"QComedy Showcase," Monday Night Gay Comedy hosted by QComedy co-producer Nick Leonard, with special guest Seattle-based comedian Chris Maltby (absolutemaltby.com). Featuring Lisa Geduldig, Blake, Maggie Dolan, Bob Douglas, and show-closer Bridget Schwartz, and more. \$8 sliding (NOTAFLOF). 8:30pm.



The Golden Gate Men's Chorus grace St. Matthew's Lutheran Church. See Saturday.

regional Center for the Arts in Walnut Creek, and Dec. 7 at Herbst Theatre in SF). Dana & Durant. Tix/info: 392-4400; www.philharmonia.org

Marlena's

"Fauxgirl!" Drag cabaret showcasing glamour and camp, co-hosted by Anjelica Devarox and "En Drag" creator Victoria Secret. Featuring Reality, Donna Rae, Miss Bliss, Mona Lott, Mini Minerva and guests. No cover. 10pm. 488 Hayes St. (at Octavia). Info: 864-6672; www.sfdrag.com

Sun

Davies Symphony Hall

"San Francisco Girls Chorus' Holiday Concert and Sing-Along," conducted by Artistic Director Susan McMane, with the sound of 300 young voices leading nearly 3,000 audience members in favorite carols of the season. Organist John Fenstermaker plays the SF

848 Divisadero St. (btwn Fulton & McAllister). Info: 541-5610; www.QComedy.com

UCSF School of Nursing

Author Daniel Wolfe discusses his book *Men Like Us: The GMHC Complete Guide to Gay Men's Sexual, Physical and Emotional Well-Being*. Free. Noon-1pm. Room N-225. 513 Parnassus Ave. Info: UCSF LGBT Resources, 502-5593.

Cafe Du Nord

"Six String Object: Digital Guitar Microfestival," night 1 of 2: guitar-based experimental electronic music featuring Chris Degiere; Daron Kay; Kenric McDowell featuring Tarantel; Neuro; and Philip Sherburne. \$7. 8pm. 2170 Market St. Info: 861-5016.

Tue

Intersection for the Arts

Jazz at Intersection's "First Tuesdays" presents saxophone prodigy Howard Wiley and his quintet, a multigenerational, double bass ensemble, performing compositions from Wiley's forthcoming full-length recording, *Twenty-First Century Negro*. \$12-\$15 sliding. 8pm. 446 Valencia St. Info/tix: 626-3311.

Club Eros

"Tantric Masturbation," a guided workshop in self-pleasuring, conducted by "Dick," who asks: "Do you masturbate the same way every time?" If you'd rather not, then join "Dick" in exploring new techniques, breathing, and movement to music. Free. 7:30-9:15pm (door opens at 7pm; closes at 7:30pm or when room is full). 2051

Market St. Info/ground rules: www.tantricmasturbation.net; 863-4154.

Cafe Du Nord

"Six String Object: Digital Guitar Microfestival," night 2 of 2: guitar-based experimental electronic music featuring allusion, Hot Licker, Chiara Giovando w/video art by Sue Costabile, Christopher Willits, Philip Sherburne. \$7. 8pm. 2170 Market St. Info: 861-5016.

Wed

Bazaar Cafe

"GLBT Songwriter Series" presents Erika Luckett ("My Little Crime" BirdFish Records) and Katherine Chase ("Little Brown Bag"). Born in Mexico, raised in Brazil and Venezuela, Luckett played in Paris subways as a teen, founded and toured with world jazz ensemble, Wild Mango, and now brings her music into the singer/songwriter midst. Chase has played everything from the country-tinged pop of "Spanking Violets," the no-depression stylings of "The Katharine Chase Band," the cutting edge rocktronica of "Kindness," and as her countrybilly alter-ego, "Kitty Rose & The Cactus Kings." She performs rare sets in the singer/songwriter world. Hosted by Garrin Benfield. No cover (donations appreciated). 7pm. 5927 California St. Info: www.garrin.com

Thu

Metropolitan Community Church

The Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence host a special holi-



Maestro Michael Tilson Thomas is one of 51 leading conductors portrayed in *Maestro! Photographic Portraits* by Tom Zimmeroff at SFPALM. See Thursday.

day edition of "Ba-da-BINGO!" In addition to cash prizes, they'll give away three DVD players. Brand new bingo machine. \$12 for 10 games with cash prizes up to \$250/game. Doors open 7pm. 150 Eureka St. (near 18th St.). Info: www.TheSisters.org

SFPALM

Exhibition opening: "Maestro! Photographic Portraits by Tom Zimmeroff," including a conversation with the artist and Maestros Michael Morgan (Oakland East Bay Symphony) and Donald Runnicles (SF Opera). Featuring a series of 51 unique B&W portraits of such musical luminaries as Sir Georg Solti, Herbert von Karajan, Kurt Masur, Seiji Ozawa, Simon Rattle, and SF Symphony's own Michael Tilson Thomas. Also a launch for "Passing the Baton," Zimmeroff's plan to photograph the next generation of the world's leading conductors. Born in 1951 in LA, Zimmeroff began his career in rock 'n' roll photography. His images have appeared on the covers of many magazines. Free. 6pm. 401 Van Ness Ave., 4th Floor.



Pamela Dunn and Yolanda S. Vierra Allen in *Harriet Tubman Visits A Therapist* at Luna Sea Theater. See Friday.

Reservations required: 255-4800. Info: www.sfpalm.org

Venue 9

"Holiday Comedy Festival" with Please Leave the Bronx, Kaspar Hauser, The Meehan Brothers, and White Noise Radio Theatre, plus improv from The Fibbs, holy-rollin' with Bucky Sinister, and guest hosting with Mike Speigelman. Also Beth Lisick and Tara Jepsen with Movement Asylum, and experimental Christmas caroling with Joel Gray. \$10-\$15. 8pm. 252 9th St. (at Folsom). Tix/info: 289-2000/ www.venue9.com

UCSF

"Intersex Activists Redefining Sex," a discussion with intersex activists Cheryl Chase, founder of the Intersex Society of North America, and psychologist Howard DeVore. Free. Noon-1pm. Health Sciences West 303, UCSF, 513 Parnassus Ave. Info: UCSF LGBT Resources, 502-5593.

Modern Times Bookstore

Celebrate the 30th birthday of this independent progressive

bookstore in the Mission. Los Cybrids open with "Techno Santeria: A Sacred Ceremony of the High Sweat Tech Global Economy." Featuring Christian Parenti, author of *Lockdown America*. Long-time friends of the store will remember the contributions of Tede Matthews, poet, drag queen, and Modern Times original. Mission-based spoken-word trio Los Delicado perform their guerrilla style fusion of music, theatre and poetry. Free. 7pm. 888 Valencia St. (at 20th St.). Info: 282-9246.

Magic Theatre

Word for Word presents "Scattering Poems All Through the Night," an evening of haunting, joyful poems of everyone's childhood, directed by Jeffrey Bihl. Actors recite works by Emily Dickinson, Langston Hughes, Eve Merriam, Ogden Nash, and Edgar Allan Poe, among others. \$22 (\$10 children under 12). 7:30pm Wed.-Sat.; 3pm Sun. Thru Dec. 30. Tix/info: 437-6775; www.zspace.org

El Rio

"Arabian Nights," an evening of dance music from the Arab world, with a special live performance by Amira at 11pm. Free belly dancing class at 9:30pm. Party starts at 8:30pm. All proceeds benefit INCITE/Arab Women's Solidarity Organization. \$5-\$10 sliding. 21+ w/D. 3158 Mission St. (at Caesar Chavez & Valencia). Info: 282-3325.

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Out & About
Bay Area Reporter
395 Ninth Street
San Francisco, CA
94103

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CATEGORY

- Parting Glances ☐
- Seeking Relationship ☐
- Seeking Adventure ☐
- Lesbian ☐
- Fetishes ☐
- Couples ☐
- Others ☐

Headline, 30 characters maximum

Write the rest of your ad here, 30 words maximum

MAIL FORM TO: BAR Talk, Bay Area Reporter, 395 Ninth Street, San Francisco, CA 94103

You must use this form to submit ads. Deadline for ads is **TUESDAY at 5 PM**, for the following week's issue. New ads run for three consecutive weeks. You will be notified by mail with information on how to leave and retrieve messages from your mailbox ad. Print clearly. No ads will be accepted without valid address, telephone number and legible text. The Bay Area Reporter reserves the right to edit ads. **One ad per customer per week.**

Name _____ Daytime Telephone _____
Address _____ Evening Telephone _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____

PARTING GLANCES

Webster Safeway 10/23/01 4:20pm
Me: brown plaid shirt, jeans, s/p hair. You: short hair, great face, smile. You said "wanna dance?" I smiled and should have said "I'd love too!" Try again? Call me. ☎ 71156

Cute Italian @ Open Studios
Sat 10/20 I tended bar. You wore a red turtleneck, black leather jacket. Our eye contact lasted long after I gave you a beer. Let's meet for a drink, Ed. ☎ 71157

Sun, 10/28 Ft. Funstn Frontrunr
You: adorable smile and adorable dog. Me: running by (twice) with group. Let's meet for a date, a run, or a game of fetch with our dogs. ☎ 71158

~Leaving Club Universe 10/27~
You: Latin & White dude. Me: slender GAM holding hands w/ my Black male friend in yellow shorts. I turned my head back, you guys did too. Let's hook up! ☎ 71169

Thrift Store "Treasure"
You, sexy dealer, long pony tail. Me, dark beard, baseball cap. Searched, "every day" for you, a real Treasure. Where are you? I collect also. Would enjoy collecting you! ☎ 71181

Sports Baseball, Sun 11/11/01
You: Black running tights, very hot man. Partner in shorts buying shoes, yum could eat you both up. Let's meet. ☎ 71182

Walter Calart, Oak
Store is closing. How will I tell you, I'd like to know you. But I'm to shy. Me, bld, bearded cowboy hat with photos of gold leaf wall. Call me. ☎ 71183

Beautiful Boy On Bike
Monday eve Nov. 5, Mission by Duboce. Me driving gold truck, dark hair, goatee, turned at Duboce. Lost you. Love to take you out. ☎ 71184

Fri 9 Nov 10:45am L Train
You: drk bld cute, on at Church St. sit across from, Me: muscular Blk guy, with Macy's bag & back pack. Want to look into your eyes. Call me. ☎ 71185

I Could Go On Singing
You- looking at Judy Record in Castro, cute and brave. Me- at payphone, on bike. Me smiled and talked briefly. Are you that Steve? ☎ 71208

Midnight Sun, Sun 11/11 @7hr.
You: Gray hair, jeans, untucked green shirt, positive interaction with friends, seemingly shy. Me: kakis, blue shirt, standing under TV, not good at bar talk. Disappointed that I didn't communicate. ☎ 71209

SEEKING RELATIONSHIP

HIV+GBM Top Seeks HIV+ GBM
39 6ft 160 GBM top seeks small build, smooth submissive GBM under 40. A+ for boys with tight butts, & good cocksuckers. ☎ 71159

Oral Expert
Attractive Black male 5'9", 158 lb, HIV+, shaved head seek White male 50 to 65 well endowed for hours of fun. ☎ 71160

Poz Loner Seeks Same
Dark, smooth, muscular, masculine Blackguy; bookish techie, quiet, doesn't socialize. 5'10", 180 lb, 44, 31" waist, 44" chest, nice body. In bed: non-verbal, affectionate. Seeking muscular, masculine cohort. ☎ 71161

Let's Set The Nights To Music
GWM ISO good looking masculine men for friendship, sex, possibly more. I like the outdoors-quiet romantic nights at home, loving one another and building a life together. Let's make it happen. ☎ 71162

GWM Seeks GLM Or GBM Top
Easy going bottom 45, 5'10", HIV-seeks easy going top, 35-55. Me blond/gray hair, big blue eyes little chunky- not a lot. Good guy. Pls call. ☎ 71170

Hairy-Chested Construction Worker
Looking to fill you up- ISO masculine men. ☎ 71171

~GBM Looking For Love~
Black male looking for other males to date. Me: 38 look 20 something, HIV-. You: be 25-55 and HIV- and looking for relationship. Please call, thanks. ☎ 71172

•GWM 28•
Stocky gym build, trim waist, looking for a similar man to date. Monogamously, I prefer, dark skin and thick thighs. ☎ 71173

35 GAM Seeking GWM
Professional 5'7", 150, seeking sincere GWM under 42 like traveling, eating out, movies, reading. ☎ 71174

Poz GBM ISO GWM Top
6ft, 170, 40 poz GBM top to service. Prefer slim under 45. Tell me how you want me to take it. ☎ 71186

Handsome Healthy Sexy Normal Guy
39 looking to settle down in caring Ltr. Me: 6', 190lbs, moustache, fun genuine, kinda furry, in-shape. Prefer beefy, cuddly, facial hair, sweet and caring guy to play house with. ☎ 71187

"Football- Built"
Blk, 50, 5'10", 220, chest 50", aggressive, strong, loving, kissable, suckable, safe, long hair, strong legs, swollen nipples, strong buns, 10" & 7 1/2" round, serious no fats or fems. ☎ 71188

Young Cute Russian
Is looking for another cultured intelligent Russian, European or American for serious relationship. Must be sexy and under 40 y.o. ☎ 71210

Truly Sweet Guy Wanted(!) By X-mas
U.B. W/LA into nature, plants, travel, general health, reasonably fit, attractive & stylish. Me: Asian-Latin, 5'9", 150, brwn, no stereotypes, only long term relations. ☎ 71211

Looking For Men With Brown Eyes
Olive skin for buffed 37 year blond hair, blu man, with big muscular arms and a nice round ass. Versatile, HIV+, smooth, great legs. ☎ 71212

Win This Prize
Goodlooking WM, 6'2", physically & mentally fit, late thirties, brown hair, blue/green eyes, athletic, unpretentious academic, warm, interested in meeting a sincere guy 25-45. Let's talk. ☎ 71213

Affectionate Guy Seeks Same
Warmly masculine, working-class, attractive 48y.o. GWM, fit at 6'3" & 175lbs, seeks physical/emotional connection with clean-living, sensual, masculine G/bl WM. ☎ 71214

Monogamous Muscular Man
Seeks same 40-55, HIV-neg., with sensitive nits for dating (TV, movies, dining) & titplay in S.F. I'm Asian, 5'7", 150#, 40c, 30w, HIV-neg. NS, no anal. ☎ 71215

Ideal Husband
GWM, 52, 6ft, 200 lbs., passionate, healthy, responsible professional. Interests: cats, music, word, dance. You: HIV- thin, romantic non-smoker. ☎ 71216

SEEKING ADVENTURE

"Party Pals!"
Handsome SWGM 39 years old who likes to party and have hot safe sex! Ages 35-40 in East Bay. Leave message. Don ☎ 71144

Hot WM Lkng For S.Vale Bear/Dad
6'1", 230lbs, 8' tool, very clean, ub-2. Hot 40y.o. in Sunnyvale looking for hot dad/bear- type in the S. Valle/S. Bay Area for day & nite fun. ☎ 71145

West Sonoma Co. Cock Sucker
Sweet sensuous mouth for long suck sessions. Play with my nips and look in my eye while I swallow your meat. ☎ 71146

Top ISO Fuckable Mouth/Butt
GWM, 50's, 5'10", 185, short hair, goatee, top ISO fuckbud bottom. Don't care about looks, age but more comfortable with real men than pretend boys. Appreciate enthusiasm and endurance. ☎ 71148

"Just Shut Up And Ride!"
WM 36, 5'10", 200lbs blond/blue clean cut muscle guy wants good looking masculine men to screw. Call anytime. ☎ 71149

If Size Matters To You...
I'm sure you'll find my sweet, juicy Black meat impressive. But I need an oral expert who can satisfy, not just try. Be mature, masculine, easy to reach (no machines). ☎ 71150

Anonymous Deep Throat Head
Blk WM HIV- 40s dominant very masculine likes getting off down an expert deep throat in dark private places if you are HIV- submissive in shape & hungry. ☎ 71151

Good looking Montana Cowboy
New to area seeks a/w smooth clean shaven under 40 feminine gentle patient for who's open minded. Beginner to learn guy/guy sex to do everything top to bottom. ☎ 71152

Service From Boyish Asian
I am seeking smooth, muscular, gym toned White or Asian males to give massage, oral, and J/O service. Relax and let go! ☎ 71163

Cock Slave/Worshipper Service...
Big bulge jockboys who love to be verbal, dominant, j/o, face fuck show off, get a little kinky with mature, fit, handsome Italian guy. ☎ 71164

Sonoma Co. Show-Offs Wanted
Love to watch you jack off, esp. in semi-public. Photos or videos? Follow-up head and/or rimming if desired. Exceptional talent. Daytime only. ☎ 71165

In Search Of White Man
I am a Latin male searching for you. Do not have to be hung. I am looking for man 24yrs old. I need a small penis 5" to 6". ☎ 71175

Just Shut Up And Ride
WM 36 5'10", 200lbs blond/blue clean cut muscle guy wants good looking masculine men to screw. Call anytime. ☎ 71189

"Small -Penises"
Don't care about size. I love asses and nipples on a male. Let me love you for just that time we are together. No fats or fems. ☎ 71191

Weightlifting Nude
Have bench, barbell, dumbbells. Come over, workout, or watch me workout. Am 48, 5'10", 190. ☎ 71192

Need To Jack-Off?
Are you into kissing, tit play and long J/O? Let's do it together. I'm 58, tall, slim, positive, mix-breed, uncut and ready to pull it. ☎ 71193

I need Condom Practice...
Previously had trouble keeping one on my 8 inch. Seeking a mature, conservative appearing bottom; moustache a plus. I'm mature, hung, Black. Fast but intense scene. ☎ 71194

Gay Artists: I'm Looking For
Gay Artist to get together to discuss art as well as other things. Also for fun and good times. Call me. ☎ 71195

Are U Craving For A Fantasy?
Steaming hot pleasures only for you. Am into anything that makes you happy, satisfied. Am HIV(-), 30's stocky Pacific Islander willing to fulfill your dreams. Let's make it come true. ☎ 71196

"Bottoms!"
Nice round butts with a muscle bound body. Big quarter size nipples to suck on aggressively. Love to dominate your ass and nipples. 18-30 no fats or fems. ☎ 71197

Senior GWM Seeks Mature GBM
GWM in SF, 65, 5'9", 155#, HIV-N/D beard affectionate- safe sex, massage, j/o. ISO mature masculine Black man over 45. Smooth, shaved head, cut A+. ☎ 71198

Hung Guys Needed! I'm Looking
For guys who are hung "9" inches or more, to get together to hang out, party, or to have real good times. ☎ 71199

Naked In The Shower
Lean masculine guy hoping to find a similar guy who would enjoy some good clean fun with a bar of soap and warm water. I'm 43 and prefer you to be younger or about same age. ☎ 71200

Mulatto Guy Sexy Light-Skinned
Educated, intelligent, attractive, creative. Seeks financially secure guys or just regular guys for fun. ☎ 71203

Dirty Old Man!
(No sense of decency whatsoever). Seeking bad ass butt boy. ☎ 71147

Tantric JO
JO adventurer seeks same to wallow shamelessly in intense male energy, prolonged edging, egoless ecstasy, and mindblowing orgasms. Physical contact unnecessary. Any age, toys, etc. ok. ☎ 71217

Dad ISO Bear/Cub
GWM in S.F. 66, 5'9", 155# HIV- white beard active healthy N/D, N/S seeks clean masc guy over 40 with beard/stache who enjoys being kissed massaged stroked J/O. ☎ 71218

European Boy For Training
Looking for any training from a young dominant master in his 20's or 30's. You won't be disappointed. Full submissive guaranteed. ☎ 71219

Do Rank Pits/Jockstraps
Give you a bone? Me too. Major jock/pit guy seeks buds 4 snif/suck fun. I'm 5'8", 150, hry, buzzed, tats, beard ripe ready. 40+, A+, yz, butch, gimme a call! ☎ 71220

Pro Cocksucker And HIV- Bottom
You're not alone big stock or lean guys. Am here to give hot, steamy gyrating movements on all my orifices. Name it, I'll do it. Am Asian, 30's and hot. ☎ 71221

VGL Hung BM Seeks Affluent Male
Vgl, 31 yr old BM, physique model, 5'11", clean cut, smooth muscular 195lbs, hung 9 1/2", college educated fun loving, seeks generous, affluent male any age/weight for friendship/fun. ☎ 71222

Mutual Oral
W male 55yrs., slim, hairy, hung, uc, HIV- seeks W male 50 to 60yrs slim, hairless, HIV- for mutual oral play ++ low hangers. ☎ 71224

Erotic Rope Bondage
Expert bondage top, GWM, 43, 5'8", 160, good looking, athletic, HIV-, seeks masculine, in-shape bottom, 21-40, for challenging erotic bondage. Gags, toys, light S/M. Discreet, trustworthy. SF or East Bay. ☎ 71223

Italian Guys Wanted! I'm Looking
For Italian guys who are hung or good looking or just regular guys who want to have fun. ☎ 71202

GBM ISO White Cocksucker
170lb 6ft 39 poz GBM seeks smooth slim GWM submissive bottom. A+ for cute nerdy small build boys. ☎ 71225

Weightlifting Nude
Have bench, barbell, dumbbells, strip down, workout, or watch me workout. 48, 5'9", 190. ☎ 71226

LESBIAN

Law Enforcement Respond Code 3
Sincere loyal So. Ca. GWF 42, ISO above for friends, pen/e-mail pals. I'm a civilian who respects a woman who wears a badge. Will you take a chance? ☎ 71166

Euro GWM For "Life" Marriage
I sign prenuptials, I don't want your money. If you'd like, I'm ok with donating my sperm to start family. 30 yrs old. Nice guy here. ☎ 71204

FETISHES

Will Be 2nd Slave
Will drink all liquids, serve you, clean up, then sit in corner or leave. I'm 59, slim, leather, + healthy. ☎ 71167

Pre-Cum Fetish Fantasy
Masc, in-shape, friendly, WM, 50, 5'9", 160, shaved head, goatee/stache, oral ISO masc, in-shape oral top WM 35+ hardcore, moderate pre-cum to regularly service. Your SF place. ☎ 71176

Rimming Coach Needed
Novice but eager to learn rimmer needs experienced rim master, expert in the divine art of rimming to teach him the subtleties and advances of giving a superb rim job. ☎ 71177

Horny Senior Cum J/O On My Face
Masculine WM wants to watch you J/O up close. See, feel your hot cum splatter my face. ☎ 71205

At Your Place
Smooth slender Asian cross-dresser, love to suck cocks. You: Caucasian, fit, watery mouth, good rimmer, healthy, uniforms, possible relationship. No flakes, no games. Just enjoy yourself. ☎ 71178

Pretty Boys Three some...
Me: bi-male 53, ISO bi-pretty-boys for sexual threesome. Pluses: red-heads, cigar-smokers, 18-30 only, 69, Greek-French, clean/sober. ☎ 71179

Seeking Nipple Wkout Buddy
GWM, 47, stocky 200# "nipple"-pig bottom bear, brn, brn, salt & pepper goatee, tats, piercings, smoker, huge erect "nipples" ISO dominant, musc, daddy bear, nip pig for heavy tit wkout sessions with growth in mind, smoker A+++. Please call. ☎ 71180

Muscle ISO Fat
I'm a GWM 50, 6'2", 195 N/S. Looking for a fat GWM/GHM for mutual body worship and safe play. Gainers A+. Open to dating or LTR. ☎ 71206

Footmat Wanted
Dominant, handsome GWM, 42, goatee, beautiful feet, seeking nice looking guy as foot slave for personal footmat. Give my sweaty soles a tongue bath, smell + kiss my toes. Fulfill my erotic desires (SF only). ☎ 71168

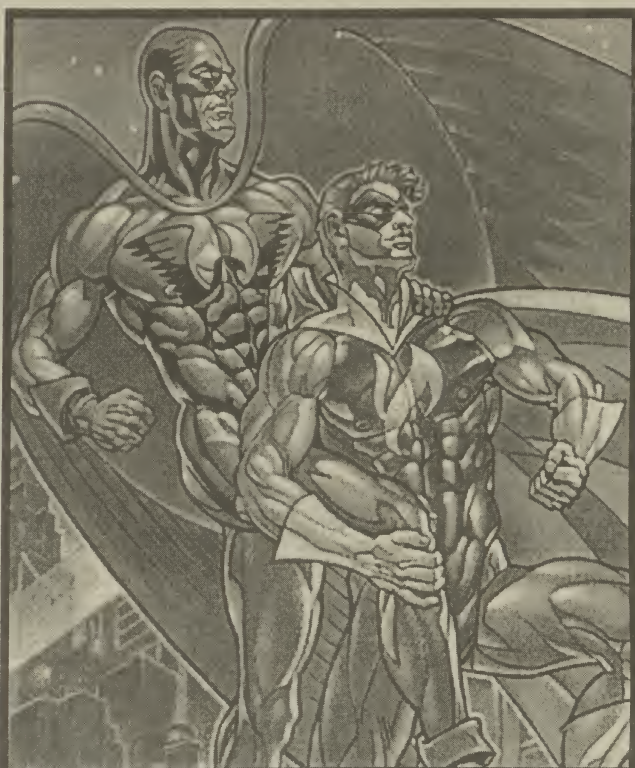
Quiet, Intellectual Man Wanted
... to suck my cock. I am older, straight dominant man in SF. Verbal, critical. You are eager to please. ☎ 71207

European Slave-Boy For Training
Young and cute boy wants to be slave or dog trained by demanding master in his 20's or 30's. Complete submission guaranteed. ☎ 71227

FF Top
GWM 58 6'5", 250# HIV- top nice big hands wants GWM 30+ bottom HIV- for fun times. Herb aroma++. Call me. ☎ 71228

Cigar Pig
GWM 45 5'9", 175 shaved head. Nasty leather pig with cigar fetish. Up for cigar smoking leather for nasty smoking sex. ☎ 71229

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Even the hottest guy in town is not worth risking your life over. Always play safe. The AIDS crisis is not over. Wear a condom and never exchange bodily fluids. Remember, safe sex is hot sex and hot sex is safe sex! ☎ SAFE



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PERSONALS

The concert experience

by Gregg Shapiro

I feel the same way about live albums as I do about mixed CDs by DJs. The mixed CD attempts to give the listener the opportunity to experience a DJ's dance-floor packing skills in the privacy of home. The thing is, most DJs don't spin the same set night after night, and the consumer gets stuck with a mixed disc with a shelf-life shorter than a Joan Rivers face-lift. As for live discs, the recordings often run the risk of being meaningful only to those who were fortunate enough to have attended the recorded concert or live in a city through which the tour passed.

I Might Be Wrong (Capitol), subtitled *Live Recordings*, was recorded during Radiohead's European tour in cities like Oxford and Berlin. The nice thing about this single-disc live recording is that it's relatively short (just over 40 minutes) and avoids the usual excesses of live discs. Seven of the eight songs (including "Idiotique," "The National Anthem," and "Morning Bell") were culled from their recent studio albums *Kid A* and *Amnesiac*, and they take on new lives in a live setting. The acoustic guitar-and-vocal "True Love Waits" is a new song. When Thom Yorke thanks the audience at the end of the song, you truly believe that he is grateful.

The idea for *The Velvet Underground's Bootleg Series, Volume 1: The Quine Tapes* (Polydor) is better in concept than in practice. Rabid rock-and-roll fan Robert Quine, who performed as a member of Lou Reed's band during the '80s, recorded a series of Velvet Underground shows in 1969. As a band that was proud of its muddy sound, these "bootleg" tapes made on a Sony cassette-recorder with a hand-held microphone capture that spirit. But the sound quality detracts from the listening experience.


I'm not sure if LA-based explicitly theatrical new-wave band Oingo Boingo (imagine Devo formed in LA instead of Akron, Ohio) ever got their due. Lead singer Danny Elfman (Jenna "Dharma" Elfman's brother-in-law) has probably had more success as a composer of film and television scores during his post-Boingo career. *Farewell: Live from the Universal Amphitheater Halloween 1995* (A&M) is a double-disc DVD set (originally released on video in 1996) that contains farewell concert footage, more than 30 concert versions of Oingo Boingo songs. The second disc contains two music videos ("Little Girls" and "Insanity") and "documentary & retrospective footage."

Stevie Ray Vaughan and Double Trouble probably sold more albums following Vaughan's untimely death. *Live at Montreux 1982 & 1985* (Epic/Legacy) captures the first and second times that Vaughan and his band played their brand Texas blues at the "Blues Night" of the Montreux International Jazz Festival. In 1982, Vaughan was nearly booed off the stage (as you can hear) by the end of his eight-song set. By 1985, after winning all sorts of fans (including David Bowie, on whose *Let's Dance* album Vaughan played), he was given a much more deserving welcome. ▼

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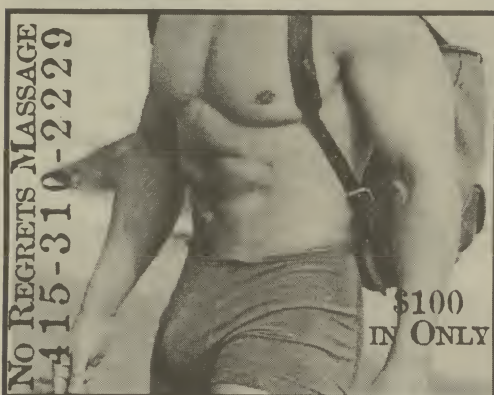
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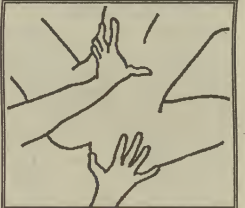
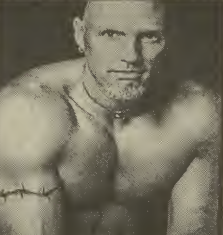


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